ASA OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS 1997

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FROM THE SECRETARIAT...

Late one evening I was sitting in the Senior Common Room with friends who were telling stories. One of them was holding forth about a trip he had taken overseas years ago for a training course. Some locals accosted him and said 'we heard that all Africans live in trees.' My friend replied that this was indeed true, he turned and said 'Yes its true, in my country your ambassador is a very big man and he lives in the tallest tree.' Things have come full circle, now in a concrete jungle far to the north an African lives in the tallest tree. The Africa of Boutros Boutros-Ghali has led to the Africa of Kofi Annan and for the first time a Sub-Saharan African is at the helm of the United Nations. Another first occurred which has, for the most part, been over-looked. Kofi Annan is the first Secretary-General to come up through the ranks of the organization's own bureaucracy. The UN has since its inception meant different things to different people and peoples. Its ironic that a Secretary-General from the poorest and most maligned continent might be the very person to rejuvenate the UN.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the founding of the ASA. This year's Annual Meeting theme "ASA and Africa: The First Forty Years and Beyond" invites us to gaze into the future as well as reflect on the past. Founding President Melville Herskovits and some 35 scholars and specialists on Africa convened 22-24 March 1957 in New York and resolved to organize the Association. The first issue of African Studies Bulletin, predecessor of African Studies Review, appeared in 1958 and featured an editorial by Herskovits in which he attributes the genesis of the Association to "an abortive attempt of an ad hoc Committee during the War to organize an International Conference on Africa." He goes on to trace the involvement of the Carnegie Corporation of New York and the Ford Foundation.

The most interesting part of the premier Bulletin is the report on the founding meeting by L. Gray Cowan, Secretary-Treasurer. He writes that:

- participants at the Conference felt that the purposes of the Association should be:
  - To facilitate communication among scholars interested in Africa;
  - To collect and disseminate information on Africa useful to its members;
  - To stimulate and facilitate research on Africa in ways appropriate to a scholarly organization;
  - To hold such meetings dealing with the general topic of African studies as shall be deemed appropriate for its purpose.

The first Board of Directors consisted of Herskovits (P), Gwendolen Carter (VP), Cowan (S-T), William O. Brown, John Considine, Cornelis W. deKiewiet, Leonard Doob, E. Franklin Frazier, Walter Goldschmidt, William A. Hance, and Vernon McKay.

The first order of business was:

- members should constitute a College of Fellows, who might admit to its membership persons of scholarly attainments in the African field. Others interested in the field but who do not meet the qualification of 'scholarly interest' might become associates [attend meetings and receive publications] but not have the right to vote....it was agreed that those who have shown a continuing scholarly interest...be eligible for consideration...it was decided to make it possible for graduate or undergraduate students interested in Africa to become Student Associates at a reduced rate.

It was prognostic that in 1957 our founders opted for a 'Royal' College of Fellows model, just as American democracy was on the verge of redefinition.

E-mail address: africa@emory.edu

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WE WELCOME NEW ASA MEMBERS
(who joined between September 1, 1996 and November 30, 1996)

Edmund Abaka  Linda Chisholm  Mara Goldman  Wanjinu Kamau
Richard L. Abel  Jarrell Chua  Sarah Gourde  Jim Kennedy
Sara Adam  C Clapham  David Gutelius  S Kiwanuka
Dele Adeleru  Herman Cohen  Musa A Hakim  Loren Landau
Kofi Agawu  Nike O Davies  C Halisi  Joanne Lederman
Ronald Aminzade  Elliott Dawes  Hugh Harris  Stanley Lederman
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Michel Cahan  Maceens Geo-Jaja  Cedric Jourde  Boubacar N’Daiye
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We THANK ASA ENDOWMENT DONORS
(who contributed between September 1, 1996 and November 30, 1996)

Ali J Ahmed  Henry E Mokosso  Pearl T Robinson  David Sperring  Earnest Valenzuela  Dwayne Woods
Caroline Ifeka

Special Donors
(gifts of $100 or more)

Lee V Cassanelli  Jane J Martin

We Never Close
Need information about the ASA, or want to send membership information to a friend? Check us out on the World Wide Web:

http://www.sas.upenn.edu/African_Studies/Home_Page/ASA_Menu.html

Conover-Porter Prize Awarded


Business Meetings at the ASA Conference

Organizations wishing to schedule business meetings during the course of the ASA Annual Meeting must request space between January 1 and June 1, 1997. Indicate in your request the length of time necessary for your meeting and provide an estimate of attendance.

The fee is $25, which is waived for ASA Coordinate Organizations. Any organization requesting meeting space after June 1, 1997, will be assessed a $25 late charge.

ASA Officer Nominations

The 1997 Nominating Committee met in San Francisco and nominated the following people: for Vice President, David Wiley and Richard Joseph; for the Board, Wosene Yefru (Tennessee State), Ropo Sekoni (Lincoln), Della McMillan (Florida), Eileen Julien (Indiana), Dorothy Hodgson (Rutgers), and Kenneth Harrow (Michigan State).

The members of the committee were Julius Nyang'oro, Kofi Akwabi-Ameyaw, Thomas A. Hale, Micheline Rice-Maximin, Carolyn Brown, Robert Harms, and Gwendolyn Mikell (Chair).
Mohamed Amin
By Chris A. Paterson, Georgia State University

"Nothing's impossible. It's all possible if you want it." This the Kenyan cameraman Mohamed Amin told me—a message about journalism he delivered unceasingly to any audience who would hear him. In November, Mo Amin was killed in the Comoros Islands plane crash—a brutal irony for a man who had spent a lifetime striving to cover news without becoming a part of it. Amin did more than any other journalist to provide the world with fair and balanced reporting of Africa.

Few people have had as many close brushes with death as Mo Amin; few have been so indestructible; but finally, Mo encountered a situation where he could not maintain that slight element of control that permitted him to escape so many times before. (In Ethiopia a few years back Mo's brush was so close that he lost an arm, and a colleague, but it never slowed him). Africa, and Mo's native Pakistan which he loved and which loved him, are, like the rest of the developing world, too often ignored by a Western media that can only portray peace and routine politics and economics when they happen close to home (that, for international television journalists, is London, New York, and Atlanta). Close to home is easy on news coverage budgets, but the result is an image of developing countries, and the majority of people in the world, in perpetual chaos. Mo Amin, who worked mostly for Reuters Television (formerly Visnews), spent a lifetime fighting, always insisting that no excuse was just barely) for most of my lifetime—over three decades.

Mo is best remembered for extraordinary video journalism which motivated rich nations to make a rare generous and personal gift to Africa, and save the lives of millions starving in Africa's Horn in 1984. Mo's intrepid journalism, not the BBC, NBC, or Visnews, were responsible for this story and its effect, though those organizations gladly rode his coat tails. What often gets left out of the Mo legend (a legend he—and biographer Brian Tetley, who was killed with Amin—had a hand in promoting) is the vastness of human history that would not have been written had Mo not been there, had Mo not fought his London news agency editors tooth and nail for story after story. Global journalism tends to ignore Africa when the few media giants writing the world's news are not held accountable. Mo waged the fight every day, digging for stories throughout Africa and pushing them under the noses of his news agency bosses. So respected was Mo—holder of the British OBE, of every journalism and humanitarian award, and friend to royals, presidents, and potentates the world over—that editors under intense pressure to find any excuse to refuse the expense of African coverage would have to listen, and often, would have to allow Mo to do what he did best. In the early nineties Mo tried to cover new famine in the Horn, but was mostly ignored, with US military intervention in Somalia being one result. In 1995 he told me of his frustration in trying to cover elections in Africa's most populous, and for the West, strategically important nation, Nigeria. His editors did not want the story unless there were "bodies in the streets." When, he asked, is this same criteria applied to election coverage in Western countries?

Recently though, Amin scored a great triumph by developing with (and for) Reuters, a weekly news program about Africa for African broadcasters; it has been the first commercially successful continent-wide television news project, although most African broadcasters still cannot afford it. The program is one of his greatest legacies, and broadcasters the world over should be encouraged to air it. Editors and program buyers continue to assume Africa is of no interest, that the continent is synonymous only with despair, and that the African Diaspora represents an audience unworthy of cultivation.

Now Mo Amin is silent. A few excellent journalists still represent big media in Africa, but none have the power to challenge, as Mo routinely did, a corporate journalism with little room for Africa. Mo is a hero to me, not just for his magnificent and remarkable photojournalism, but for using his stature for the betterment of the nations and people he loved. Media critics (ASA colleagues among them) will continue the fight, and so too will caring journalists and unsatisfied media consumers everywhere. But will it be enough? I fear none will speak again with the authority of Mo Amin.

Claude Ake
By Guy Martin, Clark Atlanta University

It was in the course of a conversation I was having with fellow political scientist Mahmood Mamdani—who recently took up a Chair in African Studies at the University of Cape Town—that I learned of the sudden and untimely death of Claude Ake, one of 142 passengers and crew of the ADC Airlines plane that crashed shortly before landing at Lagos Airport outbound from Port Harcourt on November 7, 1996. Claude was arguably one of the most brilliant, original and prolific of the new generation of African political scientists who emerged to prominence in the seventies. A product of Columbia University—yet firmly grounded in his Ogoni traditional society—he was one of the first scholars to openly challenge the conventional wisdom of Modernization theory which was then the undisputed paradigm in African studies and to propose instead a bold and innovative political economy approach for a better understanding of Africa's chronic economic, political, and social crisis. A kind of intellectual testament, his latest book, Democracy and Development in Africa (Brookings Institution, 1996) is assuredly destined to become a classic.

Not surprisingly, over the last ten years, Claude and I kept bumping into each other at various meetings of African social science organizations in which we were both actively involved, principally the African Association of Political Science (AAPSS), and the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA). Claude's presidency of CODESRIA shall certainly be remembered as one of the most dynamic and innovative in the short life of the organization, which under his inspiring leadership, launched a series of major research networks on social movements,
Book Donation Success Story
by John Comaroff

How many books does it take to satisfy the appetite of several hundred avid Tswana university students for learning history? And what happens when that appetite is fed by the sight—in a post-apartheid South Africa that promises so much yet has so little to give—of libraries with empty bookshelves and insufficient resources to accommodate a growing body of enquiring young minds? The answer to the first question is more...and more...and yet more. To the second, it is part frustration, part anger, part resignation—but, most of all, a quiet appeal for help from those who have the wherewithal to offer it, an appeal to direct the surplus scholarly wealth of our relatively indulged European and American academic communities to those elsewhere who have dire need of it. Especially notable among the latter are the ill-gotten, largely forgotten, universities created under apartheid, now “liberated” to go their own ways—without much intellectual infrastructure, only human capital. It was out of a recognition of this need that the University of Chicago/University of the North West book project, generously funded by the ASA, was born. In August 1995, John and Jean Comaroff (University of Chicago) visited Mmabatho—once capital of the ethnic “homeland” of Bophuthatswana, now center of the North West Province of South Africa—during the course of a research trip in southern Africa. While there, they visited the local university, then still known as the University of Bophuthatswana (UNIBO), and were shown the library by Neil Roos, a lecturer in the History Department. It left a profound impression—sparse stacks; social science shelves with little on them of contemporary salience; students eagerly seeking non-existent books, competing for scarce seats, waiting patiently in line for materials from a reserve room with too few copies of everything and an overworked, under-resourced staff. The mechanics of the project were straightforward enough: from October 1995 to September 1996, the Africanist circle at Chicago organized an appeal for quality social science books and journals. The results were unexpected. Not only were a large number of contemporary volumes collected from faculty, students, and friends, but a few senior professors—either recently retired or about to retire—contributed classics from their own personal collections. McKim Marriott, for example, generously offered up a rare set of anthropology journals, many of them full runs of early, valuable serials—this in addition to many now priceless books. Some donated just one volume; others, substantial holdings. Together they amounted to well over a thousand items. These were catalogued and prepared for shipping in the USA by Ben Miller and Anne-Maria Makhulu, graduate students in Africanist anthropology at the University of Chicago; and unpacked, inventoried, and shelved in Mmabatho by Neil Roos and Jen Seif (also a graduate student at Chicago, now doing research in South Africa), along with two permanent staff of the University of the North West Library, Messrs. Khutsoane and Mlagisi. The Comaroffs returned as volunteer teachers to the University of the North West in August, 1996, to find that the books were being fully employed by the library. Indeed, the project was the object of a great deal of positive comment, from Provost Melamu down to the faculty of several departments. Although a mere drop in an ocean of need, they were beginning to find their way into every day use—there to feed the extraordinary appetite of Tswana history students for texts to read, and criticize, and argue over, and make their own.

Book Donations Sought

The following organizations request the donation of books for their libraries. Please contact the individuals listed in order to effect coordination:

R.K. Obura
Crop Management Research Training Project
PO Box 677
Njoro
Kenya
Tel: 254-37-61261/61368, fax: 254-37-61145,
e-mail: cmrt@arso.sasa.unep.no

Tessemek Meke
Library
Hadiya Development Association
Hossana
Ethiopia

Isaac Mbachu,
Department of Government and Public Administration
IMO State University
PMB 2000
Owerri
IMO State
Nigeria

January/March 1997
The 1997 Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association will be held November 12-15 at the Hyatt Hotel in Columbus, Ohio. The National Panels Chair for the conference is Barbara Lewis of Rutgers University.

THEME STATEMENT
The Conference theme is “ASA And Africa: The First Forty Years and Beyond.” Ghana became independent in 1957, and the ASA was founded in the same year. Thus, 1997 is opportune for an assessment of the first forty years of the ASA and our study of Africa, as well as reflection on the future. Our scholarship to date from a wide range of academic disciplines has contributed immeasurably to our knowledge of Africa, while our study of Africa has changed the way we think about history, tradition, power, culture, art, literature, etc. Thus the theme for the 1997 meetings signals a retrospective on our research and our engagement in African change over the last four decades. As teachers and researchers from diverse disciplines, we may ask what we hope to contribute to scholarship and to usable knowledge in the future.

Although its primary vocation is to promote scholarship on Africa, the ASA may usefully reexamine the nature of its audience. How has our role changed towards students of different ages, and towards those media which shape public perceptions? What links have been developed with scholars outside the US, particularly in Africa? Should we change our activities and networks in the future, and if so, how?

The ASA is taking one initiative to build cooperation with colleagues’ organizations in Africa. The ASA will, with CODESRIA, co-sponsor three panels at “The International Symposium on West Africa and the Global Challenge” to be held in Dakar this June. These three panels: The Future of the African University, The Age of the Internet in Africa, and Restoring Dialogue: Africa and the African Diaspora, will be co-chaired by Gwendolyn Mikell, President of the ASA and Achille Mbembe, President of CODESRIA. The ASA plans to continue this discussion with African scholars from CODESRIA at our November meeting in Columbus, Ohio.

We invite you to reflect on the ASA’s first forty years and its future in proposing your papers and panels.

This call for papers may also be found on ASA’s world wide web page. See page 3 for the address.

PROPOSING A PANEL OR A ROUNDTABLE

ASA Policy on Panel Acceptances—The Board reaffirms its policy that the National Panels Chair, working with his or her committee, bears final responsibility for acceptance or rejection of all paper, panel, and roundtable proposals for the Annual Meeting. The sole exceptions are panels proposed by ASA-Sponsored Organizations; such organizations may propose up to two panels annually that will be accepted without review by the Panels Committee. These two unreviewed panels proposed by ASA-Sponsored Organizations must be identified as such in writing at the time of submission by the organization’s coordinator. Merely identifying them as sponsored panels will not grant them unreviewed status.

In addition to the two panels from each of the ASA-Sponsored Organizations, the National Panels Chair may, but is not required to, accept panels which will be listed in the program as “organized under the auspices of...” provided that the organizing groups are among the following ASA Coordinate Organizations. These are eight Sponsored Organizations (Africana Librarians Council, Arts Council of the ASA, Current Issues Council, Electronic Technology Group, Gays and Lesbians in African Studies, Outreach Council, Pan African Caucus, and Women’s Caucus); four Associate Organizations (Association of Concerned Africa Scholars, Association of New Scholars of Africa, Ghana Studies Council, and MANS); six Affiliate Organizations (Africa Today, African American Institute, Environmental Briefs Corporation, Foundation for Contemporary Research, H-AFRICA, and Sahara Fund, Inc.); and four Allied Organizations (American Council of Learned Societies, Association of African Studies Programs, National Council of Area Studies, and National Humanities Alliance).

The National Panels Chair is responsible for assuring that panels conform to standards set out by the Board and the Panels Committee. The National Panels Chair has full authority to add or delete presentations on panels in order to accommodate proposals for individual papers and to enhance the overall quality of the program. Efforts will be made to contact proposers of panels affected by these changes when they are made; however, publication deadlines may take precedence over such notification. All paper and panel proposals must be submitted through the ASA Secretariat on the appropriate forms. All papers, whether submitted individually or as part of complete panels, will be reviewed separately.

IMPORTANT: All individuals proposing panels or papers should designate the section for which the proposal is most appropriate. If the proposal can be included in two or more sections, indicate first and second choice sections. If none of the sections is appropriate for the proposed paper or panel, or if you are unclear as to the right section, designate Section R. All proposals will be reviewed by a section chair who will make recommendations to the Panels Committee.

The deadline for submissions is March 15, 1997. Three copies of all proposals and abstracts must be sent to the ASA Secretariat in Atlanta for entry into the central database. Send proposals to Program Coordinator, ASA, Credit Union Building, Emory University, Atlanta, GA 30322.

Who May Submit Proposals—Persons who propose presentations or organize panels and roundtables for the program must be 1997 members of the African Studies Association with dues and annual meeting preregistration paid by the time of submission. Scholars who are not resident in North America or whose major area of expertise is not Africa may request exemption from the membership requirement. Such persons must submit their non-member preregistration fees with their proposals. International scholars should indicate in their correspondence with ASA if they are unable to submit funds from overseas because of currency exchange problems, keeping in mind that the imposition of a fee for a US money order does not constitute a currency exchange problem. The regular fee for non-member preregistration is $85; non-members currently teaching in African universities pay a special preregistration fee of $40. Refunds of preregistration fees will be made if the presenter’s proposal is rejected. Other refunds of preregistration fees will be made only in extraordinary circumstances, will incur a $15 service charge, and will in no case be made prior to the annual meeting. Refunds of ASA memberships will not be made because of proposal rejection.

Individuals will be accepted to make only one presentation: as a paper presenter, a roundtable participant, or a discussant. Individuals may chair one panel in addition to making one presentation. Members are
reminded to settle on their preferred mode of participation before submitting materials. Acceptance notifications are mailed by the Secretariat in mid-summer. The Association does not provide financial support for attending the conference to persons whose proposals are included on the program. Participants are advised to seek funding for travel and local expenses from their own institutions. Proposals from persons who are not 1997 ASA members with preregistration paid, or who do not qualify for the above exemptions will not be processed.

What Makes Up a Proposal—An organized panel usually has a chair, four paper presenters, and a discussant. A roundtable consists of a chair and four or sometimes more speakers.

A proposal for an organized panel consists of the panel proposal and each individual paper proposal, complete with its own abstract. The paper abstract should consist of a statement of topic, the nature and extent of the research on which the paper is based and a brief summary of the argument (no more than 125 words). The quality of the paper abstracts is the main criterion for acceptance, so panels with weak abstracts are unlikely to be given high priority. Two or more weak abstracts may eliminate the panel altogether.

Individual paper proposals should be submitted in the same format as proposals for panels, as described above. Panels will be created by the Panels Committee from individual submissions with common themes. Individual proposals may also be added to constituted panels at the discretion of the Panels Committee. In no case will a co-author be added after a paper has been accepted by the Panels Committee.

Use only the standard forms, and make sure that the copies are legible. The authors of all paper abstracts should sign the paper proposal form. Proposals sent via e-mail or fax will not be processed. Proposals lacking abstracts will not be processed.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING PROPOSALS

Q: Why can't I submit my proposal by e-mail?
A: The proposal forms are designed to facilitate efficient entry of information into the database. Even when the order of an e-mail proposal follows the form, data entry is slowed because the information does not appear in the same place spatially as on the form. Time is too critical a resource during the proposal processing phase to spend on deciphering e-mail proposals and on making the required second and third copies.

Q: Why can't I submit my proposal by fax?
A: Faxed proposals are difficult (sometimes impossible) to read, thermal paper is difficult to use, and faxed proposals don't arrive in the required number of copies.

Q: Why can't I make more than one presentation at the meeting?
A: Single presentations allow for more participation by more people at the meeting. This is especially helpful for younger scholars and for those making their first conference presentation.

Q: What happens if I submit proposals for more than one presentation?
A: The first presentation received by the Secretariat will be the proposal of record. Additional proposals—either individual or as part of a constituted panel—will not be processed.

Q: Last year I didn't make my A/V equipment request at the time I submitted my proposal and I had to rent the equipment myself at the conference. What happened?
A: The Secretariat uses the A/V requests on the proposal form to negotiate an A/V contract and to schedule those rooms that will be set aside for A/V use. Essentially, when you make your A/V request on your proposal form we can schedule the rooms so that equipment set-up, rental, and tear-down costs to ASA are as low as we can possibly get them. When you request A/V equipment late, that piece of equipment carries a separate set-up, rental, and tear-down cost that ASA will not pay, since it defeats the purpose of early planning to minimize costs.

Q: Last year when requesting A/V equipment I wrote in a request for a "cassette player," as well as a "486 computer (8mb ram, 14.4 bps modem, CD-ROM player), color monitor, mouse, mouse pad, keyboard, internet connectivity, Netscape 2.0 software, Adobe Acrobat reader software, and sound applications software." I specifically wrote that my panel must be supplied with the aforementioned equipment, but we didn't get it. What happened?
A: ASA provides to conference participants—at absolutely no charge to the other panels. Why did this happen?
A: Sponsored Organizations are allowed up to two unreviewed panels per conference. ASA requires that these two unreviewed panels be designated as such in writing by the organization's coordinator—not merely designated as sponsored, but specifically designated as unreviewed. Since panels may be listed in the program as "organized under the auspices of . . .," merely identifying a proposal as being from a sponsored organization does not confer unreviewed status upon it.

Q: What happens if my department is delinquent in paying its membership dues?
A: Sponsored Organizations are allowed two unreviewed panels per conference, but they are delinquent payment status affect consideration of my proposal?
Q: Will delinquent payment status affect consideration of my proposal?
A: Yes. If you have not paid 1997 membership dues and annual meeting preregistration, your proposal will not be processed. Additionally, a panel or roundtable proposal containing one or more delinquent/non-members will not be processed.

Q: What happens if the organization's coordinator doesn't list my panel on the proposal form?
A: Proposals that have section designations will be seen by the relevant Panels Committee members at the earliest possible time. If your proposal does not fit into one of the thematic sections, designate Section R. Proposals that have no designation will have to await a decision as to their disposition. Providing no designation at all jeopardizes your chances for full and early consideration.

CHECKLIST FOR PROPOSALS—
Incomplete proposals will neither be acknowledged nor processed by the Secretariat. Before mailing an individual paper proposal, check to ensure that it is COMPLETE by including:

• 3 copies of paper proposal forms with signature(s)
• 3 copies of the abstract
• membership dues and annual meeting preregistration for 1997, or non-member preregistration for non-ASA members

Before you mail a panel or roundtable proposal, check to ensure that it is COMPLETE by including:

• 3 copies of the panel/roundtable proposal forms with signature(s)
• 3 copies of the abstracts of each member,
• membership dues and annual meeting preregistration for 1997, or non-member preregistration for non-ASA members.

Confirm that no one on your panel is appearing on another panel before submitting your proposal. Ensure you have the permission of the individuals you place on panels or roundtables, as this will affect any other presentations they may plan to make.

January/March 1997
SECTION SUB-THEMES

Section A: Religion in Africa
Proposals are invited on methodological and theoretical issues in the study of religion in Africa (whether indigenous, Christian, Islamic, etc.), as well as African and African-derived religions in Europe and the Americas. In particular there is a need to question some of the homogenizing and artificially constructed paradigms such as “religion” itself, “tradition” (and attendant problems of authenticity and ahistoricity), and insider/outside knowledge and authority which have informed much scholarship on religion. Use of sources beyond the hegemony of written texts are welcome, such as material and expressive culture, and the print and broadcast media. We also encourage proposals which offer more theoretically self-conscious reflection on the political, cultural, ideological, and economic forces which shape the premises of our fields of study. Proposals are also sought which address the ways in which studies of religion play into current discourses on cultural sameness and difference. In addition, greater scrutiny is required of the scholarly models (such as “African Traditional Religion”) that have fed back into local knowledge as realities of their own, or have proved especially constrictive in the face of growing religious change and pluralization in many parts of Africa.

Section B: The Visual and Performing Arts
Proposals are invited which, in keeping with this year’s theme, provide a retrospective of the last forty years of the visual and performing arts. Papers and panels dealing with all aspects of African, African-American, and Diaspora arts are appropriate for this section. Broadly defined, the arts are assumed to encompass material and expressive culture ranging from the plastic, graphic, musical, and performative arts to architecture, personal adornment, contemporary fine and popular arts, film, theater, and dance. Papers and panels that are multidisciplinary, thematic, or comparative are highly encouraged, as are those examining critically our basic tools and concepts. We invite proposals on such topics as: ethics, the relationship between scholarship and artistic production, the methodological and theoretical premises of fieldwork, the interdependency between art and religion, and scholarly and institutional liaisons between Americans and Africans.

Section C: African Challenges to Philosophical Paradigms
This section aims to invite papers that can be conceived of in two ways. A first kind of paper would focus on the broad underlying assumptions of work in one or several of the many disciplinary fields of African Studies, exploring critically the ways in which these assumptions have both helped and hindered our understanding of African realities. Papers of this sort would examine and, where appropriate, critique the epistemological, metaphysical and normative frameworks that have shaped European and American disciplinary approaches to the study of African history, economy, culture, and society. They would, in effect, be exploring the impact of disciplinary paradigms on our understanding of Africa.

A second sort of paper would direct itself more specifically to the challenges to disciplinary paradigms posed either by work in African Studies or by theories and approaches that have been developed (whether recently or long ago) in African societies. These papers would be exploring the challenges to disciplinary practices in Europe and North America posed by African realities and African theories. These papers would, in effect, be exploring the impact on our disciplinary paradigms. Naturally, a single paper might adopt both of these approaches or might explore the connections between them.

While these papers would be in a certain sense philosophical or methodological, these papers would not be complete without contributions from scholars in many disciplines other than philosophy; and, conversely, while philosophers might want to attend to both sorts of questions about their own discipline, they should feel free, like others, to raise questions about disciplines other than their own.

Section D: Indigenous African Institutions: Evaluation of Knowledge
What lessons can we learn from indigenous African institutions? In general, there is an impression that the realities of African values, institutions, and motives have been officially ignored in policy formulations and decision-making. An entrenched missionary attitude, while purporting to respect indigenous cultures, does not hesitate to classify many of their features as both deplorable and inessential. The positive (though not necessarily from all points of view admirable) force of African values in political processes at the national as well as local levels is being recognized. Attention has been drawn to African understandings of power in terms of “supernatural” forces and the occult; scholars, Africans included, who are “privately” well aware of the phenomena have lacked a conceptual framework to accommodate them. For instance, why is the relationship between African theology or philosophy and politics ignored in Africa to an extent that it would not be in the United States? Many Africans speaking in English or French do not hesitate to use words such as magic and sorcery, from which Western scholars generally shy away. What underlies this contrast? Should we find new labels, or rethink the categories? How much of the pre-colonial institutions and their processes do we really know? The fact that many of them have survived in different forms points to their endurance and adaptability, but are they really strong enough as Africa matures for advancement into the 21st century in a global context—a context formally and seemingly irreversibly fixed on “nations” and “states”?

Section E: Cultures and Cultural Change
This section is devoted to critical explorations of African cultures, cultural forms, and cultural change from a variety of perspectives and across the disciplines. Proposals are invited on general and speculative issues of theorizing culture and the dynamics of cultural change, the role of culture in the democratization process, cultures of resistance, culture and power (class, caste, gender, social, political, and economic), culture and the law, cultures and (the anxieties of) cultural identities, sociology of cultural processes and forms, and official proclamations on culture in charters and other legal documents.

The section also encourages attention to specific cultural forms and their potential roles in the process of African renewal: folklore; music; poetry; drama and theater; the visual arts including painting, sculpture, and cartooning; ritual observances both religious and secular; and other performances of everyday life including social, cultural, and marketing clubs and associations; and the interactions among culture, sports, and politics. Also welcome are papers exploring specific effects on culture of government social, political, and economic policies such as structural adjustment programs, privatization, media programming, legal codifications, etc.

Section F: From Modernization to Post-Modernism: Rethinking Paradigms
The “modernization” perspective, under attack since the early 1970s, is still with us. Is this because we have nothing to put in its place? Has mode of production failed as an alternative? Is the field left to the IMF? Is “democracy” what Africans want or what others think would be good for them? If post-modernism describes the cultural condition of late capitalism in the United States, does it also describe the cultural condition of Africa? If it is wrong to exoticize Others, does that mean everybody is the same? Are we prepared to recognize radical alterity? Is it true that eclecticism
prevails, and if so is that a good thing? Papers are invited that assess the meaning and direction of African studies in the light of changing conditions for the last forty years and current developments on the continent.

Section G: Literatures and Languages

Proposals are invited from a variety of perspectives that examine the many dimensions of the intricate and suggestive relationships between African literary creativity and African social and political processes. The preoccupation with social renewal in modern African literatures is not recent: it is as old as the literatures themselves. Independence from colonial rule was only recently achieved when powerful portrayals of systemic schisms between the people and the new states began to emerge. Perhaps it is as important to the perspicacity of resulting insights that scholars across the disciplines, from sociology to anthropology, are increasingly turning to African literatures as one of the more profound sources of illumination of contemporary African realities.

Proposals are also encouraged dealing with specific matters such as the phenomena of writer-politicians, guerrilla fighters, and social activists; African literary and social science discourses on the African state; "genres" such as "engaged literature" and writers’ prison "diaries;" gender and writing; theory and criticism; African literature and criticism publishing in the 1990s; the "Language Question;" post-colonialism and its discontents; and the relationships between "Europhone" and African language literatures. Several panels will also be devoted to explorations of language use and language policies, especially as related to choice of national languages and national/ethnic identities in multilingual societies, the relationships between European and African languages in the educational process, the connections between the "alien" language of government bureaucracy and the failure of popular mass mobilization; African language instruction and social mobility; gender, language, and culture, and trends in the social, historical, and linguistic studies of African languages.

Section H: The African Diaspora in Global Perspective

This section welcomes papers on a wide variety of issues, including: (i) comparative slave trade, trans-Saharan and Atlantic; (ii) conceptualization of the African diaspora (how diaspora is defined and applied); (iii) different perspectives on methodology; (iv) schools of thought on diaspora studies (e.g., the Howard University school); (v) diaspora creolization (the scattering, and the first-born generation; emergence of new languages—creole in Sierra Leone, Swahili in East Africa, and Afrikaans in South Africa); and (vi) comparative refugee studies examining recent forced migrations in different parts of Africa, and African refugees in other parts of the world.

Section I: History

Papers are invited which through data and interpretations advance our empirical and theoretical understanding of different African societies from the pre-colonial era to the present. How should the African state be characterized from pre-colonial time to the present? Is the state the only destiny of advancing political systems, and is it the only framework for political analysis? How do we relate the ideals of democracy, nationalism, and progress to Africa? Some recent scholarship argues that the state, in any form, may not be useful even as a heuristic model, as large parts of Africa are now effectively beyond the control of any national government. Is there any validity to this argument? What criteria for evaluating state performance are most appropriate to African political values and to recent history?

Papers are also invited on how the historiography of Africa has changed over the last forty years. Apart from the question of the political orientation of historiography ("nationalist history," etc.) are there African views of what history should be about that differ from the prevailing ones? Do the conventions of Western historiography privilege some areas at the expense of others? Have there emerged distinctly African perspectives on contemporary social, economic, cultural, and political developments? If so, what are their components? In what ways, if at all, do they yield insights superior to the analytic paradigms that are rooted in the Western scholarly tradition?

Section J: Sociology of Africa and Urbanization

In times past it was assumed that sociologists studied the West and left the rest to anthropology. How has the scope of sociological analysis in Africa changed over the last forty years? Is sociology preeminently suited to the study of urbanization and urban processes? Does sociology make particular theoretical or methodological contributions? Papers are invited which, in the course of illuminating diverse aspects of African societies, discuss the value of distinctively sociological or anthropological perspectives and methods.

Urban areas in Africa are dynamic, due to their demographic density and rapid growth. Papers on all aspects of urban life are invited, including: urban history and politics; the circulation of persons, goods, information, and services between urban and rural areas; the history, doctrines, and functions of new religious congregations in urban environments; class relations and patronage; public order; provision or non-provision of medical services, including those of "traditional" healers; organization and disorganization of families and households; and problems related to statistical information and research access.

Section K: Gender Studies

In the past few decades, an increasing number of scholars have begun to focus attention on the critical role of women in African development. In this section, proposals are invited which assist in "rethinking" or "reconceptualizing" how gender relations have been constructed with the reality of African societies. Papers are encouraged which analyze the social construction of gender hierarchies and its relationship to the establishment of power differentials between men and women across time and space. We also encourage papers which analyze strategies which women have used and continue to use to challenge socially-constructed definitions of gender. One major theme which undergirds this section is that African women should not be viewed as "static phenomena," but rather as important actors or catalysts of social change. Papers are encouraged which address the nature of women's role in African change, defined broadly to encompass the economic, political, cultural, and social. Topics may include population and health issues; agriculture and land reform; the impact of urbanization on women's status and gender roles; women's struggle for legal equality; women, art, and literature; the gendered impact of structural adjustment programs; the role of microbusiness enterprises in economic development; and the activities of men and women and the impact of their gender struggles on indigenously-based groups, as well as governmental and non-governmental organizations, national, and international agencies.

Section L: African Economic Development

Is there a pervasive African exceptionalism to the whole issue of development? Or is it a case of miscarried methods and approaches? How is it that structural adjustment programs recommended by respected international institutions such as the IBRD and the IMF to arrest the decline of African economies appear in many cases to further economic decline? Proposals are invited on changes in development theory, development options and new alternatives, the political and economic implications of Africa's...
continuing crisis, as well as analyses of recent attempts to advance economic recovery. Papers on land and the future of African agriculture in all its dimensions are invited. Also solicited are proposals which deal with the role of the informal sector in spurring economic development, and the role of international markets in shaping African political economies.

Section M: Africa in the Media: Electronic Information
The “information super highway” includes many media—computer networks, CD-ROMs, satellite, radio, television, video, and telephones. In understanding the comparison of these technologies in conducting research, teaching, and outreach, this section requests proposals to address the following questions: how might user-centered systems change traditional strategies of extension, teaching, and research? How do systems of technology provide greater autonomy, and empower Africanists and new students of African studies around the world? What is the role of government and non-governmental organizations in Africa to facilitate interaction strategies and learner/researcher support? What are the issues to consider in planning, implementing, and evaluating electronic technology in Africa and within African countries? What are the technological considerations influencing delivery system development? How do different countries address ethical issues of electronic technology and who has access to it?

Section N: Science, Medicine, Technology, and Environment
Increasing attention is needed on the role of science, medicine, technology, as well as changes in environment and their implications. This broad section encourages proposals on environmental changes in Africa, and the state of science, technology, and medicine. Environmental and ecological studies, including land and water use, deforestation, and sustainability, need analyses from the perspectives of social and physical science. Papers on issues of cross-cultural health, demography, infectious diseases and AIDS are also welcome.

Section O: Globalization and African Political Economies
This section covers issues of international politics and of political economy at the national and international levels. Globalization accompanying the end of the Cold War poses new challenges to the study of African political systems and political economies. Papers on Africa in the emergent global system, national responses, sectoral analysis and interstate relations are all welcome. Also invited are papers on Africa’s roles in international organizations, intra-African state relations, military and paramilitary politics and regional aspects of African political economy. We invite reflections on changing patterns of interstate and international relations over the last forty years and new rules and institutions needed to manage emerging concerns.

Section P: National Regime Dynamics: Decomposition and Reconstitution of African States
The section covers the issues of governance, civil society, the “Third Wave” of democratization and its aftermath, state breakdown, civil war, and state reconstitution, as well as political decentralization/deconcentration, local institutions and rural politics. Analyses of the movements for democratization and more transparent governance which gained momentum in the 1990s are welcome, as well as the implications of these reform movements for processes of civil society and ethnic identities as well as economic, social, and political theory. Empirical and theoretical analyses of the interrelationship between democratization and economic recovery are welcome, as are papers on the impact of donor-supported democratization and decentralization programs. We invite analyses of local institutions and their interaction with state and non-state actors.

How have colonial institutions been transformed over the last forty years, and what are the current prospects for national institutions meeting Africa’s needs? What are the likely issues that will dominate future patterns of African interaction? Does Africa need new rules and institutions to manage emerging concerns? What should these institutions look like?

Section Q: Human Rights and Current Conflicts in Africa
Proposals are invited on all aspects of human rights in Africa. The “first generation” civil and political rights are still of relevance in Africa. Papers are invited on freedom of expression, the rule of law, trade union rights, and similar topics. Papers are also invited on equality rights (rights for women, minority religious, or ethnic groups, etc.). Finally, papers are invited on such human rights issues as genocide, civil wars, the rights of refugees, torture, violations of due process in the criminal system, and the rights of prisoners. Papers are encouraged on what is commonly thought of as economic rights. This could include papers on the human rights obligations, if any, of multinational and indigenous African corporations, and of international financial institutions. It could also include discussion of the right to development, and its meaning in Africa. Papers are also invited on the philosophy of human rights. Particular attention might be paid to competing conceptions of human rights (liberal vs. communitarian, “African” vs. “Western,” rights vs. duties, the individual vs. the community); the recurring issue of universality vs. cultural relativism; and the possible imperialistic implications of Westerners’ commenting on human rights in Africa. Finally, papers are invited on questions of foreign aid and human rights; humanitarian intervention; and the roles of international organizations, African regional organizations, and non-governmental organizations in promoting human rights.

Section R: Independent Panels and Proposals
Proposals are invited on a variety of issues that:
(a) do not fit into any of the above categories, but which raise important issues,
(b) address the main theme in creative ways,
(c) advance our knowledge in any field of inquiry.

The Panels Committee will look favorably at proposals that are imaginative.

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At its Spring Meeting the Board appoints three non-Board members to serve with three Board members on the Nominating Committee. The Board will also appoint a new member to the Horkovits Award Committee. Check the Manual of Policies and Procedures (also on our web page) for information on functions of these committees. If you are interested in serving, send a cover letter and CV to the Secretariat by April 1, 1997. Submissions to the Secretariat may be emailed.

1996 ANNUAL MEETING PAPERS
If you did not give ASA your paper in San Francisco, remember to mail it to Atlanta. Many presenters dropped copies of their papers off at the conference, and we are already organizing them into the 1996 Annual Meeting Papers list. If you plan to mail your paper, note the maximum page limit of 25 pages, which is followed strictly. For a complete list of papers criteria, see page 2 of your San Francisco program.
Mail three copies of this form and all individual proposal forms and abstracts to: 1997 Annual Meeting, African Studies Association, Emory University, Credit Union Building, Atlanta, Georgia 30322. Proposals may be submitted between January 1 and March 15, 1997. Materials submitted after that period may not be considered for inclusion in the program. 1997 membership dues and annual meeting preregistration must be paid by the time of submission. Persons who are non-resident international scholars or whose major area of expertise is not Africa may request exemptions from the membership requirement. Such persons must submit their non-member preregistration fees with their paper proposals ($85 regular; $40 for persons currently teaching in African universities). Persons unable to submit fees in advance because of currency difficulties must notify ASA in order to arrange payment of fees upon arrival in Columbus.

Please indicate if this is a proposal for a panel _____ or a roundtable _____

Panel or Roundtable Title

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Chair ___________________________________________ Affiliation ________________________________

Address ___________________________________________ E-Mail ________________________________
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Author Signature __________________________

Paper Title __________________________

Section Desired __________________________

Co-author __________________________ Affiliation __________________________
Address __________________________ Telephone __________________________
Fax __________________________

Co-Author Signature __________________________

Check one ______ individual proposal ______ part of organized panel

If part of organized panel:

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Panel Title __________________________

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REQUIRED: On a separate sheet, attach an abstract of the proposed paper (one paragraph, about 8–10 sentences). Identify the topic, indicate the nature and extent of the data on which the paper is based, and summarize the argument presented in your work. Proposals lacking abstracts will not be processed.

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The Arts of Africa
An Annotated Bibliography
compiled by Janet Stanley
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Praised by reviewers as "a splendid resource," and "a model for future bibliographies in the field of African art," The Arts of Africa is an outstanding resource on African visual arts, architecture and material culture. Entries indexed by subject and author are selected for substance, significance and originality. The thoughtful annotations are invaluable for researchers or collection purchasers.

Along with obvious topics of sculpture, painting, graphics, architecture, dress and body arts, textiles and rock art, The Arts of Africa includes publications on African material culture, which go beyond "art" narrowly defined. Thus, topics include ironworking technology, archaeological pottery, economics of craft production, musical instruments, performance and graphic systems. Similarly, publications on the image of the Black in art, representations of the "other," and the influence of African art on non-African art are included.

African Historical Sources Series

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Karin Barber and Bayo Ogundijo, editors

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West Africa in the Mid-Seventeenth Century
An Anonymous Dutch Manuscript
Adam Jones, Editor

Original Dutch and annotated English translation of unpublished records on the West African coast. Based on activities of the Dutch West India Company from circa 1642-55, papers include navigational, commercial, ethnographic, linguistic and other materials of practical utility to seventeenth-century traders. Includes 3 maps, 2 tables, and 5 photo illustrations.

The Elusive Epic: Performance, Text and History in the Oral Narrative of Jeki La Njambe (Cameroon)
Ralph A. Austen, Editor

The epic of Jeki la Njambe has been performed among the Duala and related peoples of the Cameroon coast since at least the mid-nineteenth century and recorded in several indigenous, French and German texts in more recent times. The Elusive Epic contains English translations in whole or part of ten different versions of Jeki ranging from virtuoso performances with back-up troupes through family storytellers to Negritude poetry and contemporary pop music. The first half of the book discusses the epic as both a cultural and historical artifact although neither the contents nor local understandings of the epic link Jeki la Njambe to the very well known regional history of Atlantic commerce and Duala hegemony.

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Essays in Honor of JAN VANSINA
PATHS TOWARD THE PAST
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JAN VANSINA: AN APPRECIATION
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Felix K. Ekech
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APPENDIX
The Writings of Jan Vansina and Dissertations in History Supervised by Jan Vansina
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

1996 Noma Award

• Kitia Touré’s novel, Destins Parallèles, published in 1995 by Nouvelles Editions Ivoriennes, Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire, has been named the winner of the 1996 NOMA Award for publishing in Africa. This is the second time in the award’s sixteen-year history that the winning book has been published in Côte d’Ivoire, and the third time that a novel in the French language has won.

Anti-Apartheid and Other Southern Africa Material in Switzerland

• The Basler Afrika Bibliographien (BAB), Namibia Resource Centre & Southern Africa Library, have acquired the library and parts of the archives of the former Swiss Anti-Apartheid Movement (AAB). The archival material, which runs into some 15 meters of shelving, consists primarily of printed material such as press cuttings, pamphlets, posters and ephemera. The material covers the period between the mid-1970s to the early 1990s and obviously emphasizes South Africa but includes files on Namibia, Zimbabwe, Angola, and Mozambique. Published material on SWAPO, the South West Africa People’s Organization of Namibia, has been incorporated into the existing SWAPO collection of the BAB.

Enquiries: Pierrette Schlettwein or Dag Henrichsen, Basler Afrika Bibliographien, PO Box 2037, CH 4001 Basel, Switzerland. Tel: +41 61 271 33 45, fax: +41 61 271 31 55, e-mail: bab@bluewin.ch.

Drew in West Africa

• Drew in West Africa is a unique summer study program in Côte d’Ivoire which allows participants to explore the rich cultural and artistic traditions of West Africa, including courses in African culture and history of African art and architecture. Students are able to work directly with African artists in their villages and workshops in the areas of ceramics, fibers, and metals. Program dates: July 20 to August 17, 1997. Application deadline: April 1, 1997. For further information and application form, contact: Drew in West Africa, African-American/African Studies Program, Drew University, Madison, NJ, 07940. Tel: (201) 408-3013; or Phillip M. Peek, tel: (201) 408-3383, e-mail: ppeek@drew.edu.

Research Donations

• Researchers who have done research on Kenyan coastal cultures, especially Mijikenda or Swahili, are asked to send a copy of completed theses, books or articles to the library at Fort Jesus Museum in Mombasa. The museum is visited by thousands of Kenyan school children of all ages each year, and the museum education officers would like to incorporate research findings into their lessons where appropriate. Given the high number of researchers who have worked in the region, it is remarkable how few books there are in the library. Even though some readers may have sent copies of their work to the Office of the President in Nairobi, it is unlikely that it was forwarded on to Mombasa.

Please send your writings, marked “for Fort Jesus Museum Library” to Amina Said, Education Officer, Fort Jesus Museum, PO Box 82412, Mombasa, Kenya.

Arabic Language Institute in Fez

• The Arabic Language Institute in Fez encourages readers to contact us for information about our programs. PO Box 2136, Fez 30000, Morocco. Tel: (212/5)6248 45, fax: (212/5) 93 16 08, e-mail: alif@inbox.azure.net, web: http://www.azure.net/alif.

France and Black Africa

• The journal, Modern and Contemporary France, is publishing a special issue on “France and Black Africa,” edited by Tony Chafer, in October 1996. The issue contains articles, review articles, and book reviews on France’s relations with black Africa. The journal is published by Addison Wesley.

Social Justice in Liberia

• The Liberian Social Justice Foundation, Inc., is a non-profit organization dedicated to restoring a just and stable society in Liberia, and to improving the quality of life for all Liberians abroad and at home. The organization focuses on rebuilding Liberian development through public education and promotional outreach. For more information contact Liberian Social Justice Foundation, Inc. PO Box 31438, Cincinnati, OH 45231. Tel: (513) 931-1872, fax: (513) 931-1873.

SSRC Archives now at Rockefeller Archive Center

• The records of the Social Science Research Council, an independent not-for-profit organization founded in 1923, have been made available for research at the Rockefeller Archive Center in North Tarrytown, NY, which has agreed to serve as the repository for SSRC’s materials. Long inaccessible to scholars, the SSRC archives trace the evolution of the social sciences in the United States. Many of the major cultural, social, and intellectual currents of the 20th century are reflected in the SSRC records. Scholars interested in conducting research at the Center may write to the Director, Rockefeller Archive Center, 15 Dayton Avenue, North Tarrytown, NY 10591-1598, describing their projects in specific terms.

Ghanaian Work Narratives on Internet

• Stories of Ghanaian workers in a wide range of jobs are now available online for use by scholars, teachers, and students. The complete text of 25 narratives, including those of a traditional healer, village chief, nurse, market queen, member of Parliament, and cocoa farmer are on the “Working in Ghana” Project home page: http://cgsweb.cgs.edu/~wickeraworking.html.

 Casting Notice

• The makers of the film, “Amistad,” to be directed by Steven Spielberg and produced by Debbie Allen, are seeking 15-35-year-old African males and 7-12-year-old African girls, preferably Mende or Temne speakers from Sierra Leone for leading and supporting roles. West Africans familiar with other west African dialects are sought as well. Contact AMISTAD Casting, c/o Vickie Thomas, 2934 1/2 Beverly Glen Circle, Box #432, Bel Air, CA 90077.

ASA Member Receives Nomination

• Ikem S. Okoye, Northwestern University, was nominated a member at the School of Historical studies, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton University, for the 1996-97 academic year. He is completing the manuscript of a work provisionally titled, ‘Hideous’ Architecture: Feint and a New Aesthetics in Post-Abolition, Colonial Period, Southeastern Nigerian Building.

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

January 15, 1997—Minority Scholarships

• Applications for a year in residence at one of the Five College Campuses for minority graduate students in the final phase of the doctoral degree. Contact Carol Angus, Five College Fellowship Program Committee, Five Colleges, Incorporated, 97 Spring Street, Amherst, MA 01002-2324. Tel: (413) 256-8316.

January 31, 1997—Globalization Research

• Applications for a three-year research program on Globalization at the University of Chicago. Contact Globalization Project, Center for International Studies, University of Chicago, 5828 S. University Avenue, Chicago, IL 60637. Tel: (773) 702-7721, fax: (773) 702-9286.
March 31, 1997—Museum Fellowships
• The Art Institute of Chicago is accepting applications for two 2-year MacArthur Foundation Fellowships, designed to foster personal and professional growth for students considering a museum career. Contact Kim Kruskop, Coordinator of Internship Programs, The Art Institute of Chicago, MC/MAN, 111 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60603-6110.

March 1, 1997—ALA Scholarships
• The American Library Association offers a large number of scholarships of varying amounts and purposes. For further information contact Colleen J. Sullivan, tel: (800) 545-2433, e-mail: csullivan@ala.org.

PAPER CALENDAR

February 1, 1997—Diasporal Values and Ideas
• Proposals on the theme of “More than Cool Reason: Black Responses to Enslavement, Exile, and Resettlement” for a conference sponsored by the Institute of Early American History and Culture, and the Haifa University American Studies Program in 1988. Contact Ronald Hoffman, Institute of Early American History and Culture, PO Box 8781, Williamsburg, VA 23187-8781. Tel: (804) 221-1133, fax: (804) 221-1047, e-mail: ieahc1@factsaff,wm.edu.

March 31, 1997—Oral Tradition
• Proposals on the theme of “Oral Tradition and its Performance: Beyond the Verbal/Non-Verbal Divide” for the Vth triennial international conference on Oral Tradition to be held in the Howard College Theatre of the University of Natal, Durban from July 16–18, 1997. Contact Cedric Sissing or Chantelle Goods: Adams Campus Bookshop, University of Natal, Durban Durban 4041, (Tel): 812320/812321, fax: 261603, e-mail: adams.books@solo.pipex.co.za.

New Contemporary Development Journal
• The International Research Foundation for Development, Inc. solicits articles for a new journal of contemporary development issues. A special issue on Non-Governmental Organizations is planned for Summer 1997. Submit articles to Contemporary Development Analysis, International Research Foundation for Development, Inc., 2830 South Holly Street, Cambridge, MN 55008. Tel: (612) 689-2963, fax: (612) 689-0560, e-mail: nirfd@aol.com.

Francophone Studies
• The Institut Français, London, is organizing a conference on the theme, “Propaganda and Empire in France,” to be held September 19–20, 1997. Contact Amanda Sackur, School of Languages and Area Studies, University of Portsmouth, Wilshire Building, Hampshire Terrace, Portsmouth, PO1 2BU. Tel: 01705 843479, fax: 01705 843450, e-mail: amanda@hum.port.ac.uk.

Essay Series Continued
• The Social Science Research Council and the American Council of Learned Societies are pleased to announce the continuation of New Directions, an essay series that seeks to open new avenues of inquiry in the study of Africa. New Directions accepts essays written in English and in French from scholars in the humanities and the social sciences. A proposal for a New Directions essay should be presented in the form of a two-page abstract and sent to: New Directions, Africa Program, Social Science Research Council, 810 Seventh Avenue, New York, NY 10019. Tel: (212) 377-2700; fax: (212) 377-2727.

MEETING CALENDAR

February 4–16, 1997—Images and Empire in Africa
• Conference sponsored by African Studies at Yale University. Theme: “Images in Africa that Bear the Mark of Empire.” Contact Paul S. Landau, Dep’t of History, PO Box 208324, Yale University, New Haven, CT 06520, e-mail: plandau@minerva.cis.yale.edu, or Deborah Kaspin, Dept. of Anthropology, P.O. Box 208277, Yale University, New Haven, CT 06520, e-mail: kaspin@yalevm.cis.yale.edu.

February 21–22, 1997—Politics in Education in Africa
• 12th African Education Research Symposium sponsored by faculty and students in the college of Education, Ohio University. Contact: Sally Navin, 203 McCracken Hall, Ohio University, Athens, OH 45701. Tel: (614) 593-4444, fax: (614) 593-0799, e-mail: snavin1@ohiou.edu, or Charmaine Villet, Graduate Student Working Group, e-mail: cv515488@oak.cats.ohiou.edu

March 6–8, 1997—History
• 40th Annual Missouri Valley History Conference to be held in Omaha, NE. Contact Lorraine Gesick, Program Chair, MVHC, University of Nebraska-Omaha, Omaha, NE 68102.

March 20–23, 1997—Children’s Rights
• Saint Xavier University Sesquicentennial Conference to be held in Chicago. Theme: “Children’s Rights.” Contact: “Children in the World” Conference Committee, Saint Xavier University, 3700 West 103rd Street, Chicago, IL 60655. Tel: (312) 298-3278, fax: (312) 298-3272, e-mail: children@sxu.edu.

March 21–23, 1997—Theatre Studies
• Conference sponsored jointly by the University of Bristol Drama Department and the Colston Research Society. Theme: “New Approaches to Theatre Studies and Performance Analysis.” Contact Günther Berghaus, Department of Drama, University of Bristol, Cantocks Close, Woodland Road, Bristol, BS8 1UP, UK. Tel: 0117/928 78 33, fax: 0117/928 82 51, e-mail: mark.sinfield@bris.ac.uk.

April 10–13, 1997—Postmodernism and Democracy
• Annual Couch-Stone Symposium on the Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction to be held in College Park, MD. Theme: “Postmodern Culture, Global Capitalism, and Democratic Action.” Contact: Harvey Brown, CSS Coordinator, Department of Sociology, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742-1315.

April 10–13, 1997—African Language Learning
• Conference sponsored by the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Theme: “Defining the Field. African Language Learning and Teaching.” Contact Antonia Schleicher, African Languages and Literature, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1414 Van Hise Hall, 1220 Linden Drive, Madison, WI 53706-1557. Tel: (608) 262-2487, fax: (608) 265-4151, e-mail: ayschle@facstaff.wisc.edu.

April 16–19, 1997—African Literature
• Twenty-Third Annual Conference of the African Literature Association Hosted by Michigan State University. Theme: “FESPACO Nights in Michigan: African Film and Literature.” Contact Kenneth W.Harrow, Department of English, Morrill Hall, Michigan State University, E. Lansing, MI 48824-1036. Tel: (517) 353-7243, fax: (517) 353-3755, e-mail: harrow@pilot.msu.edu.

July 6–9, 1997—South Africa
• Biennial conference of the South African Historical Society, at the University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa. Theme: “Land and Social Problems in the History of South Africa.” Contact Cobus Ferreira, SAHS Secretary, Department of History and Cultural History, University of Pretoria, Pretoria, 0002, South Africa. Fax: 012-4202698, email vnicker@libarts.up.ac.za.

January/March 1997
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Sociocultural Anthropology
- The Center for Afroamerican and African Studies (CAAS) at the University of Michigan seeks one or more sociocultural anthropologists with extensive research experience in Sub-Saharan Africa. This will be a joint appointment between CAAS and the Department of Anthropology. Contact Tammy S. Davis, e-mail: tsd@umich.edu.

Women's Studies
- The Women's Studies Program of the University of Iowa invites applications for a faculty position in Women's Studies and another department, from candidates with interdisciplinary scholarship and teaching in the area of gender, culture, and politics. Screening for this position began November 1, and will continue until the position is filled. Contact Susan Birrell, Women's Studies Program Search Committee, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242.

African History
- The history department at Moorhead State University invites applications for a tenure-track assistant professorship in African history. The application deadline is March 1, 1997. Contact Paul Harris, History Department Search Committee Chair, Box 396, Moorhead State University, Moorhead, MN 56563.

Anthropology
- The Department of Anthropology of the University of Georgia solicits applications for a new, tenure-track position in ecological/environmental anthropology as relating to African-Americans. The deadline for applications is March 1, 1997. Contact Stephen A. Kowalewski, Department of Anthropology, Baldwin Hall, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-1619.

Communication/Public Relations
- The Communication Department of California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, seeks an assistant professor of Communication/Public Relations and Organizational Communication. Initial review of applications will be January 15, 1997. Contact Vinita Dhingra, Search Committee Chair, Communication Department, California State Polytechnic University, 3801 West Temple Avenue, Pomona, CA 91768-4007. Tel: (909) 869-3520, fax: (909) 869-4823, e-mail: vdhingra@cspomona.edu.

Communication/Journalism
- The Communication Department of California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, seeks an assistant professor of Communication/Journalism. Initial review of applications will be January 15, 1997. Contact Vinita Dhingra, Search Committee Chair, Communication Department, California State Polytechnic University, 3801 West Temple Avenue, Pomona, CA 91768-4007. Tel: (909) 869-3520, fax: (909) 869-4823, e-mail: vdhingra@cspomona.edu.

African History
- The Department of History of the University of Minnesota invites applications for a one-year temporary replacement position in African History. The application deadline is March 15, 1997. Contact Africa Search Committee Chair, Department of History, University of Minnesota, 267-19th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55455.

Evaluation Research
- The Center for Organizational and Behavioral Sciences announces a search for an organizational or social scientist who specializes in evaluation research. Review of candidates will begin January 15, 1997. Contact Stewart Donaldson, Evaluation Search Committee Chair, Center for Organizational and Behavioral Sciences, The Claremont Graduate School, 123 E. 8th Street, Claremont, CA 91711.

Program Officer
- The Ford Foundation is seeking to fill two Program Officer positions in Governance and Civil Society—one to develop and oversee a worldwide program aimed at reinforcing democratic processes and institutions, and the other to develop and oversee a grantmaking program designed to promote and strengthen civil society. The application deadline is February 10, 1997. Contact S. Gordon, Ford Foundation, 320 East 43rd Street, New York, NY 10017.

Environmental Management
- The Center for Wildlife Management, School for Field Studies seeks a Senior Educator/Administrator, with background in residential, field-based education, responsible for budget, planning, external relations, staffing, fundraising, and institutional development for respected environmental problem solving organization. Likely starting date: June 1, 1997. Contact SFS, Box K, 16 Broadway, Beverly, MA 01915. Tel: (508) 922-1200 x 304, fax: (508) 927-5127, e-mail:sfshome@igc.apc.org.

RECENT DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS

Compiled by Joseph J. Lauer
(Michigan State University)

The theses listed below were reported in Dissertation Abstracts International (DAI), vol. 57, nos. 3-6, parts A & B. Each citation ends with the order number, if any. American theses are usually available from University Microfilms International (PO Box 1346, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1346). For Canadian theses (with NN prefix), contact the National Library of Canada (395 Wellington St, Ottawa KIA ON4). See DAI for abstracts and other details.

This is the 33th quarterly supplement to American and Canadian Doctoral Dissertations and Master's Theses on Africa, 1974-1987 (Atlanta: Crossroads Press, 1989).

Agriculture


Taore, Doulaye. Biomes of Smicronyx guineanus Voss and Sm. umbrinus Hustache (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) potential biocontrol agents of Striga hermonthica (Del.) Beeth. (Scrophulariaceae) in Burkina Faso. Ph.D., McGill U. (Can.), 1995. NN05801.


Business Administration


Earth Sciences


Economics


Brenzel, Logan Elaine. Female decision-making power and the intra-household allocation of food and


Hua, Haiyan. Which students are likely to participate in private lessons or school tutoring in Egypt?. Ed.D., Harvard U., 1996. 9624194.


Sow, Papa Baidaly. Développement et validation d’une stratégie de dépistage de jeunes doués dans le...
Language


Law


Literature


Mass Communications


Music


Philosophy


Physical Sciences


Political Science


Gebe, Boniface Yao. International regulation of the Liberian civil conflict: The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and regional security. Ph.D., Queen's U. at Kingston (Can.), 1995. NN08356.


Psychotherapy


Rutgers To Host ASA

At the San Francisco Annual Meeting the Board of Directors voted to accept the proposal of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick campus, to host the ASA Secretariat for the next five years. Many institutions expressed interest in hosting the Association, and four formal proposals emerged: the University of Florida, the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and Rutgers. These proposals were circulated to the Board in advance of the Annual Meeting and members were asked by President Berger to rank the proposals. A consensus was reached by the time the Board met, and the University of Illinois and Rutgers were short-listed. Delegations from both of these institutions made oral presentations to the Board and answered questions. The Board, with newly elected members in attendance, then met in camera and voted.

Rutgers is the eighth-oldest institution of higher learning in the US. It was chartered in 1766 as Queen’s College. In 1825 the name was changed to Rutgers College in honor of a former trustee and Revolutionary War veteran, Colonel Henry Rutgers. Rutgers became a university in 1924. The state of New Jersey took over Rutgers and all its divisions in 1956. It is the only university in the US to have been a colonial College, a land-grant college, and a state university. Currently the university has an enrollment of 49,000 students, on all three campuses. Graduate and professional students account for 27% of the enrollment, and women make-up 53% of the student body. U.S. News & World Report, in its 1995 “America’s Best Values,” ranked the Rutgers New Brunswick campus 11th among the 229 institutions it considers national universities. A moving date is not yet fixed, though it is likely to happen this Summer.

ASR Gets New Editorial Team

The ASA Board has approved a new editorial team for African Studies Review. The group hails from the Five College African Studies Council. Ralph Faulkingham (Massachusetts at Amherst) and Mitzi Goheen (Amherst College) will become the co-editors of the review, while Eugenia Herbert (Mount Holyoke College) will become Book Review Editor, and Samba Gadjigo (Mount Holyoke College) will be the Film Review Editor.

A friend and colleague Mark DeLancey will be stepping down this year as both Editor and Book Review Editor of the African Studies Review. An appeal for members to step forward and take his place was carried in the ASA News. Six proposals were received by the Board. Mustapha Dhada (Clark Atlanta), Toyin Falola (Texas at Austin), and Paul J. Kaiser (Mississippi State) all applied for the Book Review Editor post. Yorck Bradhaw, Nancy Schmidt, and John Hanson (Indiana) proposed a three-person co-editorial team to become Editor, and Franklin Vivekananda (Palo Alto College) also applied to be Editor.

Glassman Honored with Herskovits Award

1996 Herskovitz Award Committee— Kwame Anthony Appiah (Chair), Jennifer Widner, Myron Eichenberg

Jonathan Glassman's Feasts and Riot: Revelry, Rebellion and Popular Consciousness on the Swahili Coast 1856-1888 (Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann, 1995), achieves something that would until recently have seemed impossible: a full-length monograph of East African history from below in a period before European Conquest. Building on the work of earlier historians of the Swahili coast, the author adds not only his own original research in hitherto neglected German and Zanzibari archives, but also a keen grasp of the work of such scholars as Eric Hobsbawm and E. P. Thompson on “crowds” in Western European social history, to produce remarkable new insights into Swahili society in the second half of the nineteenth century.

At one level, this book is about the festival riots of 1888, whose development and antecedents it explores elegantly and with a gripping narrative command. Through the prism of the question why these riots occurred, Glassman introduces us to the whole commercial, social, and political world of a portion of the Swahili coast as it made the transition from Oman to European domination. But the book also speaks to broader methodological concerns—concerns that are of great importance across a wide swathe of disciplines and in every part of the world. Glassman’s work, for example, the question how we can interpret protest and resistance that is not expressed in the language of state politics; how, in short, we are to determine what in the life of crowds—in riots, gossip, or banditry—is political.

But Glassman draws attention, too, to the ways in which subordinated groups can operate in moments of social crisis to claim membership in the dominant—in this case Swahili—political community; and Feasts and Riot thus contributes to our understanding of the role of identities in sustaining hegemony.

Feasts and Riot displays area studies in general, and African area studies, at its best: it shows how the detailed exploration of a local phenomenon, in all its particularities, can illuminate questions of the most general theoretical interest; and it does so in language that combines grace and power, to produce a work that makes compelling reading.

In Memoriam

Mary Nicol Leakey (1913-1996), palaeoanthropologist, archaeologist, and palaeontologist, passed away peacefully on the 9th of December at the home of her son and daughter-in-law, Richard and Meave. Basic science and hard fieldwork nurtured her and she was fond of telling people that she preferred a tent to a house.

Members Win!

Nancy Gabriel, Nancy Schmidt, and Simon Ottenburg won big in the Do It In June! endowment raffle while others earned book premiums. Note only did Nancy Gabriel, who is also a Life Member, win first prize, but she also won third prize! In fact all of the winners bought multiple tickets. It is a truism in philanthropy that people who support a cause once will likely do so again and again. Little did former President Marty Klein know as he picked the lucky tickets that they would be held by such strong supporters of the Association.

All total 129 members bought 542 tickets and they received 54 books as premiums. After expenses were deducted about $13,500 remained to credit for the NEH match. If you include contributions received earlier in the year, then we raised some $22,000 for the endowment fund.

January/March 1997
**ASA Calendar of Events & Deadlines**

The ASA Calendar will list events and deadlines of the Association and its Sponsored, Associate, Affiliate, and Allied Organizations.

**1997**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 March</td>
<td>Submissions to ASA News 30-2</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 March</td>
<td>Proposals for the Book Donation Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 March</td>
<td>Submissions to 1996 ASA Annual Meeting Papers</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 March</td>
<td>Submission of proposals for 1997 ASA Annual Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 March</td>
<td>Nominations for ASA International Visitors Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 March</td>
<td>Nominations for Distinguished Africanist Award</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 April</td>
<td>Nominating and Herskovits Award Committees nominations</td>
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<tr>
<td>17-19 April</td>
<td>AASP Spring Meeting, Washington, DC</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 May</td>
<td>Publishers’ nominations for Herskovits Award</td>
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<tr>
<td>2-3 May</td>
<td>ACLS Annual Meeting, Philadelphia</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 June</td>
<td>Submissions to ASA News 30-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 June</td>
<td>Business meeting requests for ASA Annual Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 September</td>
<td>Submissions to ASA News 30-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>12-15 November</td>
<td>40th ASA Annual Meeting, Columbus, Ohio</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 December</td>
<td>Submissions to ASA News 31-1</td>
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**1998**

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<th>Month</th>
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<tr>
<td>15 March</td>
<td>Submission of proposals for 1998 ASA Annual Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>1-2 May</td>
<td>ACLS Annual Meeting, Philadelphia</td>
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<tr>
<td>28-31 October</td>
<td>41st ASA Annual Meeting, Chicago</td>
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**1999**

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<th>Month</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>11-14 November</td>
<td>42nd ASA Annual Meeting, Philadelphia</td>
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**THE FORD FOUNDATION**

320 East 43rd Street
New York, NY 10017

The Ford Foundation is seeking to fill the following positions:

**Program Officer, Governance and Civil Society - # SSA1:** To develop and oversee a worldwide program aimed at reinforcing and strengthening democratic processes and institutions through enhancing participation in governance and civil society in plural and diverse societies. The new portfolio will encompass grantmaking related to issues of diversity (race, ethnicity, language, gender and religion) and aim to enhance access to governmental power and decision-making. The program officer will also be responsible for stimulating research to develop new intellectual paradigms that recognize pluralism as a force for positive social change and help to identify political arrangements addressing the needs of a diverse society.

**Required qualifications include:** Advanced degree in social sciences, law or public policy; substantive experience working in developing countries, especially in government, foundation and non-governmental or international organizations; sound analytical and writing abilities and excellent interpersonal skills. Preferred qualifications include: training in comparative politics and experience with political structures and institutions in developing countries. Knowledge of and experience working in Africa is desirable. (Position available immediately.)

**Program Officer, Governance and Civil Society - # SSA2:** To develop and oversee a grantmaking program designed to promote and strengthen civil society, focusing on non-governmental organizations and the non-profit sector worldwide. The Foundation’s current program, mainly US focused, includes efforts to enhance the organizational capacity of non-profit organizations. The new program officer, working closely with the field offices, will develop programmatic strategies both to strengthen the NGO sector internationally (advocacy training, capacity development, promoting organizational accountability and transparency, and enhancing management skills); and to facilitate more effective NGO-government relations by creating a policy environment where the civil society actors can contribute to the policymaking process.

**Required qualifications include** advanced degree in social sciences, law or public policy; substantive experience working in non-governmental organizations in developing countries or international organizations; excellent interpersonal relations skills and sound analytical and writing abilities. Knowledge of and experience working in Africa desirable. (Position available immediately.)

To apply, please send a cover letter (indicating position number), resume and brief sample of your writing, by February 10, 1997 or soon thereafter, to the attention of S. Gordon. The Ford Foundation is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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