FROM THE ASSOCIATION’S PRESIDENT...

Good News and Bad News for African Studies in Washington

The Good News

Slowly and surely during the 1990s, the U.S. Congress and the Administration are recognizing the wisdom of investing in area, international, and foreign language studies in the United States, including African studies. This past month, the Congress voted a 12% increase in Title VI and Fulbright Hays Programs in the Department of Education budget, which was higher than even the 10% increase for the domestic education programs that Clinton championed.

Potentially, this can result in more funding this next year for Title VI African Language and Areas Studies (FLAS) fellowships nationally, programming on Africa by the Title VI African Centers, fellowships for Fulbright-Hays faculty and doctoral dissertation research, and overseas research centers (such as the West African Research Center). The Undergraduate Foreign Language and International Studies Program of two-year awards also should expand. (All college and university Africanists are eligible for these grants which can be used for improving undergraduate African area and language programs. The 1998-99 deadline probably will be in February or March 1999.)

This increase is part of a general trend since 1990, when Title VI program funding was about half of what it will be in 1999. Such an increase is a great achievement for a program that Richard Nixon tried to eliminate and which a number of internationalists - including the critics of area studies - predicted would disappear in this post-Cold War period of globalization. This growth of resources for our field reflects a dawning North American awareness that the world out there cannot be ignored and that it is important both for U.S. domestic and foreign affairs.

Even though African studies are allotted only about 10% of the Title VI international studies funds (compared to about half for Asian studies), U.S. Africanists are wealthy in comparison with the African studies in the continent’s universities and scholarly communities. This nation’s wealth and power in the global system provide rich resources for area studies scholarship like our own that often is regarded as peripheral to the mainstreams of national economic interests.

The Bad News

But Africa - and the university communities in Africa - is not benefitting from the growing wealth of the West, and especially that of the U.S. Over the past decades, we have experienced the growth of African studies in Africa and the dramatic increase in African capacity. A strong and vibrant indigenous scholarship has emerged, transforming the neo-colonial patterns of the early days of African studies in
WE WELCOME NEW ASA MEMBERS
(who joined between June 1, 1998 and August 31, 1998)

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Augustine Konneh  Udeulu  Ohio University
Obiono M. Iheudu  Sonia Silva  Winthrop Univ.
Kwaku Osei Akom  M. Donaldson  C. Freeman
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WE THANK ASA ENDOWMENT DONORS
(who contributed between June 1, 1998 and August 31, 1998)

Fran Lisa Buntman  Kathleen Slob
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Summit on Africa meeting dates scheduled

The schedule for the remaining regional summits and preparatory meetings is listed below:

Mountain/Southwest Region:
(Includes Houston former region)
Regional Summit:
Denver, CO - March 26-28, 1999
Sub-Regional Meeting:
Austin, TX - Saturday, January 30, 1999
Contact: Dr. Tom Rowe
University of Denver
303-871-2000

Pacific West Coast Region:
Regional Summit:
San Francisco, CA - June 4-6, 1999
Sub-Regional Meeting:
Seattle, WA - Saturday, April 10, 1999
Contact: Dr. Bruce Pickering
Program Director,
World Affairs Council, San Francisco
415-982-2541

East Coast Region:
(Includes Boston and Philadelphia former regions)

Regional Summit: Baltimore, MD or
Wilmington, DE - July 23-25, 1999
Sub-Regional Meeting:
NY, NY - Saturday, May 10, 1999
Contact: Dr. Bill Jackson
Director, Government Relations & Policy Program
The Africa-America Institute
202-667-5636, or

The African Studies Association wishes to acknowledge and thank the African Studies Center at Michigan State University for the use of its Tuesday Bulletin. Some information from the bulletin was used to produce this newsletter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 1st - Operation Crossroads
Operation Crossroads Africa (OCA) invites applications for its 1999 program. All OCA projects are community-initiated and the applicant lives and works with hosts who have designed the project. The project work may entail construction of a school, an inoculation drive, a tree-planting scheme or some other activity. Application deadline for 1999 is February 1, 1999. For more information write to: Kate Shackford, Director of Program Services, Operation Crossroads Africa, 475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1366, New York, NY 10027; Phone: (212) 870-2106; Fax: (212) 870-2644; E-mail: oca@igc.apc.org; Web: http://www.igc.org/oca.

February 15th - Service Learning in Africa
Service Learning in Africa is a seven week summer program offered by SUNY College of Technology at Canton and SUNY Potsdam in conjunction with Operation Crossroads Africa (OCA). The program offers the candidates a unique opportunity to live and work in an African community while earning college credit. Students will participate in group-oriented cultural exchange and

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community development projects in Africa developed and supervised by OCA. Projects typically involve physical labor using indigenous resources. The application deadline is February 15, 1999. For further details and applications contact: Lora C. Lunt, Director of International Education, Carson Hall 215-217, SUNY Potsdam, Potsdam, NY 13676-2294; Phone:(315)267-2792; Fax:(315)267-2656; E-mail: luntlg@potsdam.edu or Patrick Mazzeo, Director of International Education, SUNY College of Technology at Canton, Canton, NY, 13617

Study Abroad - Langara College
Langara College in Vancouver, Canada, announces Canadian Field Studies in Africa, an academic program in which students and instructors travel on an eleven week safari through Kenya and Uganda. The program, taught in conjunction with other six Canadian universities, offers ten or more courses in Archaeology, Anthropology, Biology and Geography. For further details contact: Donald MacDonald, Langara College, 100 West 49th Avenue, Vancouver, BC, Canada V5Y 2Z6; Telephone: (604) 323-5511; Fax: (604) 323-5555; E-mail: dmacdonald@langara.bc.ca. participate in group-oriented cultural

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

January 1 - Bolin Fellowships
• Applications for The Bolin Fellowships at Williams College, which awards two minority graduate students who are working toward the Ph.D. in the humanities or in the natural, social or behavioral sciences. The stipend for 1999-2000 is $26,000. Candidates should submit two full copies of each of the following materials, postmarked by January 1, 1999: a full curriculum vitae, a graduate school transcript and three confidential letters of recommendation, a copy of the dissertation prospectus, preferably limited to 10-15 pp., and description of teaching interests to: David L. Smith, Dean of the Faculty, Hopkins Hall, Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts 01267. Candidates will be notified of the Selection Committee's decision by early March, 1999.

Five College Fellowships
• Applications for the Five College Fellowship Program for Minority Scholars, which provides a year in residence for minority graduate students in the final phase of the doctoral degree. Each fellow is hosted within an appropriate department or program at one of the five colleges - Amherst, Hampshire, Mount Holyoke, Smith, and University of Massachusetts. The stipend is $25,000 and includes office space, housing assistance and library privileges at the five colleges. Most fellows teach one course during the year. Contact: Carol Angus, Five College Fellowship Program Committee, Five Colleges, Incorporated, 97 Spring Street, Amherst, MA 01002-2324; 413-256-2816.

MEETING CALENDAR

April 15-18, 1999—African Language Teachers Association (ALTA)
• African Language Teachers Association (ALTA) will hold their Third Annual International Conference at Howard University in Washington, DC on April 15-18, 1999. Theme: Facing the Winds of Change: The Teaching and Learning of African Languages in the New Millennium. Contact: Dr. Lioba Moshí, Conference Chair, University of Georgia, Department of Comparative Literature, Athens, GA 30602; e-mail: moshi@arches.uga.edu; Website: www.councilnet.org/pages/Cnet_Members_ALTA.html

May 15-22, 1999—African-American Summit
• The 5th African-American American Summit will be held in Accra, Ghana on May 15-22, 1999. Presidents from more than twenty African countries are expected to attend. The focus of the Summit will be education, democracy, business investment and economic development, health and agriculture. For more information, contact: The Summit Office, 5040 E. Shea Boulevard, Suite 260, Phoenix, Arizona 85254-4610; Phone: 1-800-835-3530; Fax: (602) 443-1824.

June 4-6, 1999—Sudan Studies Association
• Conference held annually by the Sudan Studies Association of North America at Tufts University, Cambridge, MA, on June 4-6, 1999. Theme "Sudan: Dilemmas and Prospects." Contact: Professor Ann M. Lesch, Political Science Department, Villanova University, 800 Lancaster Avenue, Villanova, PA 19085; fax: (610) 519-7487; e-mail: alesch@email.vill.edu

PAPER CALENDAR

December 31, 1998 - Teachers Association
• Submissions for the African Language Teachers Association (ALTA) Third Annual International Conference to be held at Howard University in Washington, DC on April 15-18, 1999. Theme: Facing the Winds of Change: The Teaching and Learning of African Languages in the New Millennium. Presentations will be twenty minutes long and may be presented in any African Language, English, French and Portuguese. Abstracts of not more than 250 words should be submitted by December 31, 1998 to: Dr. Lioba Moshí, Conference Chair, University of Georgia, Department of Comparative Literature, Athens, GA 30602; e-mail: moshi@arches.uga.edu; Website: www.councilnet.org/pages/Cnet_Members_ALTA.html

February 1, 1999—Sudan Studies
• Submissions for Annual Conference of the Sudan Studies Association of North America at Tufts University, Cambridge, MA, on June 4-6, 1999. Theme "Sudan: Dilemmas and Prospects." Scholars, activists, and researchers are invited to submit abstracts or papers. Graduate students as well as scholars who specialize in neighboring countries are encouraged to participate. We welcome pre-organized panels. Please send abstracts of 150-200 words by February 1, 1999. For inclusion in conference publication, send by March 15, 1999 to: Professor Ann M. Lesch, Political Science Department, Villanova University, 800 Lancaster Avenue, Villanova, PA 19085; fax: (610) 519-7487; e-mail: alesch@email.vill.edu

Submissions to ASA News received by e-mail or on disk will be given priority
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

African Languages
* Ohio University seeks a suitable candidate for the position of Assistant Professor of African Languages in the Linguistics Department. This is a tenure track position for a candidate with the following qualifications: a Ph.D. in an African language, Applied Linguistics, Foreign Language Education or related field, native or near native competence in Kiswahili and one other African language. Some teaching experience in the United States is desirable.

The candidate will teach Kiswahili and supervise TAs using standard classroom methods, supervise the learning of other African languages using self-instructional methods as developed by the National Association of Self-Instructional Language Programs (NASILP), develop materials and conduct research in African languages and Applied Linguistics. The deadline for applications is January 15, 1999 or until post is filled. The position is available in September 1999. A letter of introduction, curriculum vitae, transcripts and the names of three referees should be sent to: Swahili Search Committee, Department of Linguistics, Room #383 Gordy Hall, Ohio University, Athens, OH 45701-2979.

African-American World Studies Program (AAWSP)
* The African-American World Studies Program (AAWSP) at the University of Iowa is seeking a distinguished scholar for the position of Program Chair. The appointment is expected to be at the rank of associate or full professor, with tenure. Preference will be given to candidates whose research emphasis is in the study of African Americans in the US. Formal screens begin December 1, 1998 and the appointment will begin in August 1999. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply. Letters of nomination or application, curriculum vitae, and the names of three references should be addressed to: Executive Associate Dean Raul Curto, AAWSP Search Committee Chair, The University of Iowa, 240 Schaefner Hall, Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1409.

Director of Administration
* The Africa Fund seeks an organized individual to supervise finances and administration of a 6-10 person staff and assist in developing program plans and strategic goals for a 32 year old non-profit agency working for equitable U.S.-Africa policy. Experience analyzing and summarizing financial reports is essential. Candidate must also demonstrate the ability to prioritize, liaison with accountants, lawyers, staff and Board, oversee budget preparation, prepare appropriate government and donor reports, maintain personnel records, and coordinate development proposals. Writing and people skills are important. Salary high 30s.

The Africa Fund is an equal opportunity employer. For full job description see the web page: www.prairienet.org/acas/afund.html or write: Personnel Committee, The Africa Fund, 50 Broad Street, Suite 711, New York, NY 10004.

Cultural Anthropology
* Rutgers University, Department of Anthropology, invites applications for a tenured Associate or Full Professor position in Cultural Anthropology. (This is not an entry level position.) Theoretically strong, ethnographically active candidates with skills in program building sought -- preference for Africanist but other ethnographic areas considered. Rutgers University is an equal opportunity employer and encourages the applications of minorities and women. Please submit letter, CV and names/addresses of 3 references by January 15, 1999, to Michael Moffatt, Co-Chair, Search Committee in Cultural Anthropology, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, 131 George Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1414; moffatt@rci.rutgers.edu

Anthropology Department
* The Anthropology Department and the Carter G. Woodson Institute for Afro-American and African Studies at the University of Virginia seek to hire an anthropologist or anthropologically-oriented scholar with research interests in transnational or diasporic connections between Africa and the African Atlantic world. This will be a tenure-track, joint appointment at the assistant professor level. The successful applicant will teach in the Woodson Institute's Afro-American and African Studies program and in Anthropology. PhD required by May 1999. Send letter detailing research and teaching interests, C.V., three references, and a writing sample to Chair, Anthropology/Woodson Search Committee, Anthropology Department, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 22903. Deadline is January 1, 1999. The University of Virginia is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity Employer and strongly encourages applications from candidates who would enhance the diversity of the University's faculty and administration.

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women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

Global Studies
* The UW-Madison’s International Institute announces an opening for the Associate Director of Global Studies. The Associate Director is a full-time position with major responsibilities for developing and managing innovative interdisciplinary research projects and providing advanced training for doctoral candidates in international studies. The Associate Director of Global Studies will work closely with the faculty of the Global Studies Program. Depending on the level of interest, opportunities for teaching and/or research are available. It will be possible to participate in the research activities of one or more networks; teaching opportunities may also be explored in the Institute’s undergraduate international studies program (‘IR Major’) and other departments, depending on the qualifications of the successful candidate and the needs of programs and departments. Requirements: Background in an interdisciplinary area and/or international studies, completed Ph.D. no later than May 31, 1999, demonstrated interest in advanced research on global issues, writing skills and some experience working overseas, prior experience in program management, if possible in interdisciplinary academic programs. Ability to help develop research projects. Experience writing grant proposals is preferred. The 12 month annual salary will be between $45,000 and $55,000, depending on experience and credentials. The position is at 100% and will commence on or before August 15, 1999. Interested applicants should send a letter of interest, CV, a brief writing sample, and three references. Applicants interested in adding a teaching component to the position should list areas of interest and expertise. Deadline: Friday, January 29, 1999. Direct questions to: Catherine Meschievitz at email: meschiev@macc.wisc.edu Send applications to: Dr. Catherine Meschievitz, Associate Director, International Institute, 288 Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison, WI. 53706.

Send news and announcements to ASA NEWS by e-mail to: callasa@rci.rutgers.edu

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RECENT DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS

Compiled by Joseph J. Lauer & Mary Mwiandi (Michigan State University)

The theses listed below were reported in Dissertation Abstracts International (DAI), vol. 58, no. 12 and vol. 59, nos. 1-2; or in Index to Theses, with Abstracts, Accepted for Higher Degrees by the Universities of Great Britain and Ireland (Aslib), v. 47, no. 1. Each citation ends with the order number, if any. American and Canadian theses are usually available from University Microfilms International (PO Box 1346, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1346). Some British or UK theses are available from the British Thesis Unit, British Library Document Supply Centre, Boston Spa, Wetherby, LS23 7BG, UK. (The Center for Research Libraries purchases foreign dissertations upon demand.

This is the 40th quarterly supplement to American and Canadian Doctoral Dissertations and Master’s Theses on Africa, 1974-1987 (Atlanta: ASA/ Crossroads Press, 1989).

Agriculture


Anthropology


Ogden, J.M. Gold jewellery in Ptolemaic, Roman and Byzantine Egypt. Ph.D.,
Durham (U.K.), 1990.


Architecture


Biological Sciences


Earth Sciences


Economics


Education


Environmental Sciences


Fine Arts


Folklore


Geography


Health Sciences

Caudill, Denise May. The door of the tomb is open: participatory action research to assess the impact of strengthened community capacity on maternal health care in rural Mali. Ph.D., U. of Texas H.S.C. at Houston, 1997. 9820253.


History


Stemmet, F. Control of the value of black goldminers’ labour-power in South Africa in the early industrial period as a consequence of the disjuncture between the rising value of gold and its “fixed price”. Ph.D., Glasgow (U.K.), 1993.


Language


Law


Literature


Emanuel-George, Juliet A. The quieted voice in multiculturalism: a study of the shifted self in the works of the post-colonial writers Rhy, Riley, Emecheta, and Cliff [Nigeria]. D.A., St. John’s U. (New...
Mass Communications


Music


Physical Sciences


Fall, Alioune. Methodology for evaluating the impact of animal traction at the farm level in a small-scale multicropping system [Senegal]. Ph.D., Michigan State U., 1997. 9822440.

Political Science


Psychology


Religion


Social Work


Sociology


Speech Communication


Theology


Goussinkdey, Eugene Didier A. Chrisitic model of Eboussi Boulaga: a...
post-independence Africa. But the potential of these intellectual developments on the continent and their potential to address the continent’s development needs is being eroded by the dire economic, social, health, and political problems of most African countries and their universities and the public education systems. Individual faculty members cannot give full attention to research and scholarship when they are beset by heavy teaching loads, poor research and library resources, deteriorating infrastructure, low levels of remuneration, and all the problems of life in poorer societies.

In 1998, the wealthy nations of the OECD called on each other to mobilize resources for development...in a spirit of burden-sharing to improve education, poverty-reduction, health and gender equality, environmental sustainability, human rights, and good governance. In fact, in spite of that verbal commitment, the news from Washington is not so good for Africa - or for the developing world in general. In 1997, U.S. aid to developing countries reached a 50-year low. (Only Canada and Japan increased their relative giving.) And U.S. assistance, as a percentage of GNP, is the lowest of the 29 OECD members (including Turkey, Poland, and Korea), less than one-fourth the average member’s average.

Last year, the Administration promised constituents that the demise of U.S. AID’s Africa Development Fund would not herald a decrease in U.S. assistance to Africa. The medium-term trends in U.S. assistance are more revealing. Official development assistance (including grants and net loans) from all OECD countries for all of Africa fell by 19% between 1990 and 1996. In the same period, however, U.S. assistance plummeted by an astonishing 53%! And foreign investment has had little compensatory impact when, in 1997, even in the face of Asia’s economic flu, less than one percent of the foreign investment worldwide went to Africa (including that to South Africa), and little more than two percent of the value of loans went to Africa.

Those declines will translate into fewer resources for African academics, their research institutes, and their university libraries, laboratories, and classrooms. They will have fewer resources for welcoming our graduate students and ourselves there or for collaborative research. With fewer donor training programs, we will receive fewer African postgraduate trainees as our present students and our future colleagues, especially in facing the great decline in African currencies and the comparatively high costs of our programs. Thus, these policies will decrease the African presence on our campuses, in our African language programs, and in our lecture halls - and African studies in the U.S. will be poorer for it.

As 1998 ends, we have enjoyed the intellectual stimulation of a good annual meeting in Chicago of the world’s largest African studies association. As we enter this season of lights and of remembering the poor and the powerless, it would be good for U.S. Africanists to consider making personal gifts to further strengthen those organizations which address U.S. foreign policy and which speak and act on behalf of African peoples, African development, African debt relief, and an empowered African scholarship.

David Wiley
Michigan State University
November 1998

* Many of these data derive from an OECD News Release, Paris, 6/18/98, with additional OECD data, and may be found on a re-posting by the Africa Policy Information Center, at http://www.africapolicy.org/docs98/aid9807.htm

"President" - from page 2

