

# ASA NEWS

ENHANCING THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ABOUT AFRICA

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## FRESH FACES MEET OLD FRIENDS

The ASA welcomes new journal editors, Board members, & secretariat staff on the heels of a successful Philadelphia Annual Meeting.

AN AFRICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION PUBLICATION

# LETTER FROM THE ASA

The ASA started the year with a few exciting changes. We are thrilled to welcome new members to the Secretariat including a new programs manager, graduate assistants, and an undergraduate intern. You can read more about our talented new staff on page 25. We also welcomed a new *African Studies Review* Editor in Chief and Deputy Editor who are ushering in a new age of fully digital journals. Read all about their plans for the publication on page 11. We are also fortunate to introduce our newest cohort of ASA Board Members on page 30, including President Adérónké Adésolá Adèsányà serving through November 2023.

In a more unusual turn of events, we received news that the US government bought out all San Francisco contracts to host this year's APEC summit during our pre-Thanksgiving meeting. Unfortunately, the city-wide security required to manage such a high-profile event is not conducive to hosting our Annual Meeting at that time, even if meeting space were still available. While we are very pleased to see such an investment in San Francisco communities hit by the pandemic, this change did impact the launch of our CFP by a few weeks. After considering several beautiful cities, we are grateful that ASA will remain in San Francisco and will meet Thursday, November 30 - Saturday, December 2. As always, pre-conference events including this year's Publishing Improvement Pipeline for Emerging Scholars (PIPES) workshop will be held Wednesday, November 29. We are particularly excited to note that ASA will no longer conflict with the 2023 American Anthropological Association meeting in Toronto or the 2023 American Academy of Religion meeting in San Antonio. We hope you will welcome your colleagues that are typically unavailable.

We have not had the opportunity to meet in northern California since 2010 and are overjoyed to be joining our west coast colleagues once again. The 2023 CFP was a resounding success by all metrics. Thank you to everyone that submitted proposals. For those that still wish to present, we encourage you to read this year's thoughtful conference theme on page 23 and watch your inbox for our AfricaNow! call which will open in mid-August. This issue also includes a comparative infographic on page 17 which highlights AfricaNow! and other Annual Meeting trends which may be of interest.

We are honored to collaborate with the Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD), the African Studies Association of Africa (ASA-Africa), and Africa Is a Country (AIAC) to bring to fruition the Sixth International Congress of African and African Diaspora Studies (ICAADS). Each Association will host ICAADS programming during their Annual Meeting in this multi-sited global event. These events will serve as a forum to reflect on broadly shared histories, contemporary realities, and to affirm the future destinies of continental Africans and African-descended people across the globe through concrete policy discussions that have transnational relevance. This event will place academics at the center of policy discussions as the drivers of change. Anyone can participate in the ASA's ICAADS program by attending an ICAADS session and contributing to the discussion. Accepted proposals will be asked to draft a co-authored white paper to present and workshop during the ASA Annual Meeting in San Francisco. Finalized white papers will be collected at the end of the event, catalogued, shared, and potentially presented again with related ICAADS papers from our other events. This is an exceptional opportunity to engage in interdisciplinary collaboration and co-author a paper with an emerging scholar for an intergenerational policy perspective. We hope you'll seize this opportunity to join the conversation.

Finally, each spring we invite nominations for ASA awards and prizes. We strongly encourage you to take a few minutes today to review the list of this year's ASR prizes on pages 10 and ASA prizes on page 31. With increasingly busy service schedules and endlessly growing inboxes, we know that nominating a mentor, colleague, or recent graduate for an award might not be an urgent priority. We do however think it's a wonderful way to show gratitude, honor, or encouragement. To emphasize that, we hope you enjoy a wonderful Gretchen Walsh Book Donation Award winner highlight on page 7 and find some nomination inspiration in this uplifting story.

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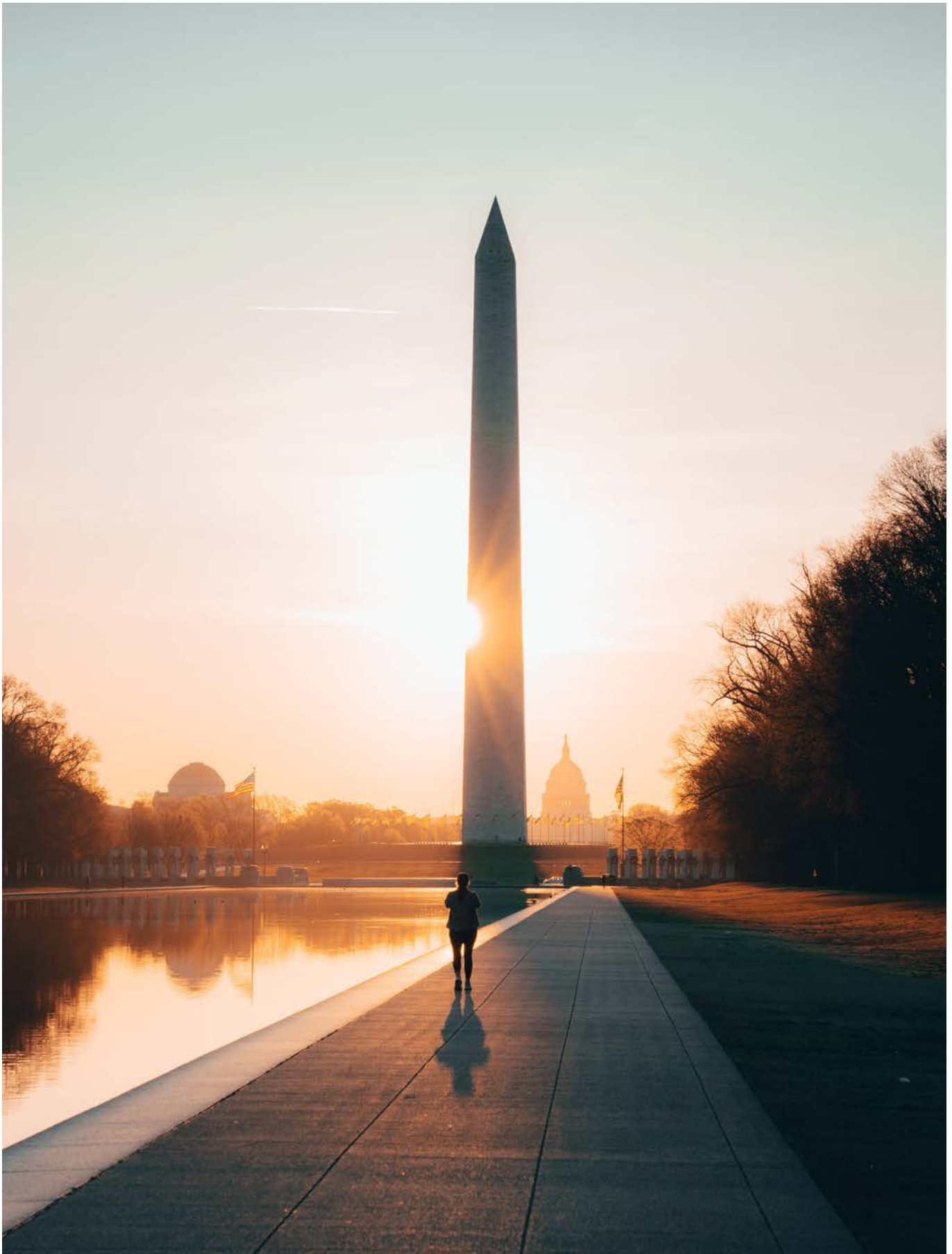
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Founded in 1981, the National Humanities Alliance (NHA) is an advocacy coalition dedicated to the advancement of humanities education, research, preservation, and public programs. NHA is supported by more than one hundred national, state and local member organizations and institutions.

# AFTER BIG WINS FOR THE HUMANITIES IN FY23 WHAT COMES NEXT?

**By Alexandra Klein,**

NHA Communications and Government Relations Manager

With the beginning of March, we are gearing up for the 2023 NHA Annual Meeting and Humanities Advocacy Day--the first to be held in person since 2020. We have much to celebrate in looking back at the past year, including the largest yearly increase for the NEH ever and the humanities community's robust advocacy that made the increase possible. At the same time, we are cognizant that we confront a more challenging landscape this year given the split congress and that therefore rallying advocates from across the country and cultivating bipartisan support for federal funding for the humanities remains absolutely essential.

In addition to the largest yearly increase for the NEH, bringing its budget to \$207 million for FY 2023, the final appropriations omnibus bill passed in mid-December contained several other wins for our funding priorities.

- Title VI received \$75.4 million, an increase of \$3.5 million, and Fulbright-Hays received \$10.3 million, an increase of half a million dollars.
- The Institute of Museum and Library Services received \$294.8 million, an increase of \$26.8 million.
- The National Archives and Records Administration received \$427.52 million, an \$39.21 million increase. And its grant-giving arm, the National Historical Publications and Records Commission received \$9.5 million, a \$2.5 million increase.

For a complete overview of the final funding level for all of our policy priorities, please see our funding chart.

These wins were possible because of strong, year-round advocacy by the humanities community. And none of these

successes would be possible without the support of scholarly societies such as the African Studies Association

For example, thanks to their ability to mobilize their members, we were able to recruit advocates from all 50 states and Puerto Rico to participate in our 2022 Humanities Advocacy Day, which kicked off our advocacy for these FY 23 wins.

Now as we turn our attention toward FY 24 appropriations, it is crucial that we focus on cultivating strong bipartisan support given the realities of a split Congress. While we are optimistic that we can build on our past success cultivating bipartisan support—even when the Trump administration sought to defund the NEH year after year, a Republican controlled Congress passed increases for the NEH—cultivating this support will take continuous effort. And over the past year, we have been hard at work to ensure that bipartisan support remains robust.

In an effort to engage Members of Congress beyond Humanities Advocacy Day, we held a virtual briefing in July to discuss the many ways the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) supports Indigenous American languages including the preservation of Native languages and lifeways through grants to study and document endangered languages and make language resources accessible to tribal members. Staffers heard directly from three NEH grantees about the profound impact that NEH funding has had on their work in language preservation and revitalization.

In October, we partnered with Oklahoma Humanities to bring local humanities leaders, policymakers, and congressional staff together to discuss the impact of federal funding on Oklahoma communities. The event was attended by representatives from the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, the University of Tulsa, Northeastern State University, and Oklahoma Christian University, in addition to leaders of public humanities organizations such as the Philbrook Museum, the Oklahoma Museums Association, Thick Descriptions, and the First

Americans Museum. In discussion, speakers highlighted the role Oklahoma institutions play in connecting the public with groundbreaking humanities research and providing opportunities

**"[LOCAL HUMANITIES LEADERS] HIGHLIGHTED THE ROLE OKLAHOMA INSTITUTIONS PLAY IN CONNECTING THE PUBLIC WITH GROUNDBREAKING HUMANITIES RESEARCH AND PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCUSSION, CONNECTION, AND EDUCATION THROUGHOUT THE STATE— AS WELL AS THE ROLE FEDERAL DOLLARS PLAY IN SUPPORTING HIGH-IMPACT HUMANITIES WORK."**

for discussion, connection, and education throughout the state—as well as the role federal dollars play in supporting high-impact humanities work. Following the conversation, the group took a private tour of the Oklahoma Museum of Art's groundbreaking exhibition, Kiarostami: Beyond the Frame, which was supported by an Oklahoma Humanities grant.

We have also secured new, bipartisan leadership for the Congressional Humanities Caucus. With the retirement of Rep. David Price (D-NC-04), we not only needed to secure a Republican co-chair, a position that has been vacant since May 2021, but also needed to secure a new Democratic co-chair to ensure that the caucus would continue on after Rep. Price's retirement. Working in collaboration with the Federation of State Humanities

Councils, we were able to bring on Rep. Dina Titus (D-NV-01) as the new Democratic co-chair of the caucus last November. And just last month, we finally secured a Republican co-chair, Rep. Mike Carey (R-OH-15). We are so pleased to once again have bipartisan leadership, especially now that Republicans control the House. With Members from both sides of the aisle leading the Congressional Humanities Caucus, we are able to show all Members of Congress that federally funded humanities programs have bipartisan support.

Identifying Republican champions for the National Archives and Title VI and Fulbright-Hays programs has also been of paramount importance. In March 2022, Rep. Don Young (R-AK-AL) died suddenly—he had been a strong champion of both causes and led yearly letters on their behalf, asking other Members of Congress to sign on. With his passing, we needed to find new Republican leadership on these issues and new sponsors for these letters. Rep. Young Kim (R-CA-40) took up the mantle for the Title VI letter last year, and we are confident that she will do so again this year. And we are currently in conversation with several Republican offices to secure new leadership on the National Archives letter.

While all of these are positive steps forward, it remains crucial that we gather together each year on Humanities Advocacy Day to meet with Members of Congress and their staff in person and work to ensure bipartisan support for federally funded humanities programs. While many anticipate that increases in domestic spending will be hard to come by, we are confident that we can impress upon Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle the importance of the humanities and why it is critical to continue robustly funding these programs.





# Are you a U.S. Scholar? Apply to the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program!



The Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. Government and administered by the Institute of International Education.  
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For application information, visit  
[fulbrightscholars.org](http://fulbrightscholars.org)

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# EXCAVATING KNOWLEDGE: Establishing a Community Library at Christiansborg Castle (Ghana)

Rachel Ama Asaa Engmann  
& Dorothy Engmann

The 2022 African Studies Association's Gretchen Walsh Book Donation Award provided a significant book donation from the Africanist scholar, Dr. Pier M. Larson's collection on the history of slavery in West Africa to The Christiansborg Archaeological Heritage Project (CAHP)'s community library. The CAHP is an ongoing study (2014-present) of the history and legacies of the Danish transatlantic slave trade at Christiansborg Castle in Osu, Accra, Ghana. Its library forms part of the Excavating Knowledge Project (EKP), an important component of the CAHP's community education outreach. The EKP library is located at the Castle, "We don't have anything like this library in Osu!", stated one community member.

Christiansborg Castle is a United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

World Heritage Site, a former Danish slave trading fortification, seat of British colonial government administration, and Office of the President of the Republic of Ghana (Today, it is an annex to the Office of the President). Our approach at Christiansborg Castle involves the participation of community members in archaeological research and fieldwork, many of whom are the direct descendants of Danish men and Ga women who worked and lived in and around the Castle, and who engaged, both directly and indirectly, in the Danish transatlantic slave trade as slave traders. It is for this reason that we call our work 'autoarchaeology.'

At the Castle, our community engaged work is inspired by, and keeping with, the work of politically engaged archaeologists across the globe who are decolonizing the field of archaeology. We undertake

the work in full knowledge that it will not necessarily be sufficiently recognized or valued by the current institutional reward structure of academe. In our view, and contrary to conventional thinking in the academy, community engagement is not incompatible with rigorous scholarly work; rather, the two are mutually reinforcing and enriching.

Working in this way over several years with the Osu community that inhabits the neighborhood close to the Castle, we have learned of the challenges that members of that community face, especially children and young people. Many come from homes that do not have electricity and running water, nor space and adequate furnishings for home study. Schools are poorly resourced and maintained. Educators are aware of the current pedagogy that promotes experiential learning, but many are demotivated because of poor working conditions, and often have little choice but to engage in



“chalk and talk” methodology. The Ghanaian government recently introduced a free education policy directed at the primary and secondary school level, but parents often cannot afford the additional associated costs: uniforms, books, and other learning materials, as well as school lunches. There are no free after-school activities or social clubs, and there is currently only one government library in the area close to the Castle. Some parents require their children to seek gainful employment to help support the family, so school attendance can be erratic. That said, most parents still consider education to be the sole (legal) route to escape urban poverty (despite the ongoing social and educational inequalities that exist), and many cite their own lack of, or limited education as why they are largely consigned to society’s margins. Community leaders’, parents’, and students’ discourse is permeated with an often overwhelming sense of despair.

The EKP, in tandem with the community-based work of the CAHP more broadly, seeks to address these manifold challenges, and the library provides some of the essential practical and human resources to achieve that goal. The EKP embraces interactive, experiential learning, seeking to demonstrate the connection between archaeology, history, and heritage, and the relevance of all these fields to contemporary social, political, and economic issues. Artifacts (and their replicas) from archaeological excavations at the Castle are used extensively in programming, while ‘inset’ opportunities are provided for both educators and volunteers from the community. The library provides extracurricular activities like object-



storytelling and performance to promote literacy; offers a quiet place to do homework; provides opportunities to research assignments; and offers unique learning opportunities designed for adults. Through this work, the library helps to build a more educated, strong, and vibrant community.

The library is located in a former administrative building within the Christiansborg Castle complex, generously provided free of charge by the Ghanaian government in recognition of its value to the local community. The space has been adapted with locally made bookshelves and recycled furniture. It also features two colorful, detailed murals designed by Abdul Ganiyu Tetteh Okoe, a Ghanaian multimedia artist, that depict community members conducting archaeological fieldwork. Ghanaian donors funded this work on the physical space. Last year, the library secured and installed 1,800 books for children of primary

and secondary school age thanks to donations by Reader to Reader and other private donors in the United States.

This year with the help of the Gretchen Walsh Book Donation Award, we received almost 600 books on the slave trade, slavery, African and African diasporic history that we are committing to the work of CAHP and EKP and will be helpful to the community involved with these projects. This influx of books came from the personal library of Pier Larson, PhD and are the gift of his wife, Michelle Boardman. Dr. Larson, who died in 2020, was a longstanding member of the African Studies Association and sat on organizing committees for the annual meeting. Together Rachel and Michelle identified titles that would meet the community request for titles broadly related to the history of Christiansborg Castle, the Danish transatlantic slave trade, and West Africa and applied for the Gretchen Walsh Award to cover the

**"ALTHOUGH PIER'S RESEARCH WAS BASED IN MADAGASCAR AND THE INDIAN OCEAN, HE READ WIDELY AND TAUGHT BROADLY ABOUT THE HISTORY OF AFRICA. I AM THRILLED THAT NEARLY HALF OF HIS BOOKS ARE NOW IN THIS BEAUTIFUL LIBRARY WHERE THEY CAN BE OF USE TO THE OSU COMMUNITY UNDERTAKING THIS INNOVATIVE ARCHEOLOGY AND EDUCATION PROJECT."**



cost of shipping books from Baltimore, Maryland where Dr. Larson was a professor at The Johns Hopkins University to Accra. "Although Pier's research was based in Madagascar and the Indian Ocean, he read widely and taught broadly about the history of Africa," said Michelle. "I am thrilled that nearly half of his books are now in this beautiful library where they can be of use to the Osu community undertaking this innovative archeology and education project."

The Pier M. Larson Archive of personal papers and unpublished manuscripts can be found in the collection of the Herskovits Library for the Study of Africa at Northwestern University.

Dr. Larson's book donation, supported by the Gretchen Walsh award, will enable the continued development and success of the EKP library and the CAHP more broadly. His legacy will live on through the lives and in the minds of the community of Osu, whose life stories have been so shaped by many of the historical forces on which Dr. Larson has shed so much light.

For further information:

Christiansborg Archaeological Heritage Project Website

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The Christiansborg Archaeological Heritage Project (English)

The Christiansborg Archaeological Heritage Project (Ga)

The Christiansborg Archeological Heritage Project (Danish)



# **SUBMIT TO THE 2023 AFRICAN STUDIES REVIEW PRIZES**

# **1**

## **GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER PRIZE**

**Nominations due March 15, 2023. Any paper presented by a graduate student at the 2022 ASA Annual Meeting is eligible.**

# **2**

## **BEST AFRICA-FOCUSED ANTHOLOGY OR EDITED COLLECTION**

**Nominations due April 15, 2023. Titles must have been published during the previous calendar year (2022) and can be submitted in any language.**

# **3**

## **BEST AFRICA-BASED DISSERTATION**

**Nominations due April 30, 2023. Dissertations must have been defended during the previous calendar year (2022) and can be submitted in any language.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT**

**[AFRICANSTUDIES.ORG/PUBLICATIONS/AFRICAN-STUDIES-REVIEW-PRIZES/](https://AFRICANSTUDIES.ORG/PUBLICATIONS/AFRICAN-STUDIES-REVIEW-PRIZES/)**

# From The Top: ASR's Editorial Leadership Transition

Throughout 2022, the *African Studies Review* team prepared for new editorial leadership. Now Cajetan Iheka, Editor-in-Chief, shares fresh leadership initiatives, in our recent interview alongside newly appointed Deputy Editor, Katherine Luongo.

**The *African Studies Review* is a multidisciplinary journal with an interdisciplinary editorial team. As the new Editor in Chief of the journal, what do you find most valuable about working across multiple disciplines in an editorial team environment?**

I enjoy the challenge and excitement of engaging with research outside my primary area of expertise. As noted in the question, the ASR attracts submissions covering every aspect of African studies, ranging from agriculture to zoology. The journal's multidisciplinary disposition has trained me to read widely; to cultivate comfort with treading new research grounds and discerning how each submission can broaden our understanding of African studies as a whole. Through my work with the journal, I have learned something about topics as varied as colonial monetary policies in South-Central Africa and the workings of Chinese mines in Zambia (these two are some of the exciting work recently published or forthcoming in the journal).

That said, multidisciplinary comes with its own challenges, which is why I am grateful to work with a team of associate editors who bring a broad range of expertise and an astonishing sense of commitment to their editorial work. As Editor-in-Chief, I treasure their wisdom, ethics, and attentiveness to manuscripts, all of

which have been very valuable in making difficult decisions.

**In his farewell letter, the former ASR Editor in Chief Benjamin N. Lawrence announced that the ASR would be transitioning to an exclusively online publication. How does going digital relate to open-access and accessibility broadly? What are the other benefits to having an online-only publication?**

Yes, the March issue of the journal is its first digital-only version. We expect this move to increase accessibility for our audience, especially those on the continent, since readers of the journal will be able to access research more conveniently and quickly. Going digital also expands possibilities, particularly with respect to publishing images and other supplementary materials. Our publisher, Cambridge, can now print images in color without charging the authors for this service. Authors can also embed additional materials such as videos and links that will be easily accessible to the journal's readers. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the enormous affordances of digitality when it comes to accessibility, connection, and affordability; the journal's transition is geared toward leveraging these benefits.

**What approaches will the new ASR leadership team take to cultivate new authors or engage new readers on the continent or in diaspora communities?**

We anticipate that the digital transition will expand the journal audience, and we intend to take advantage of this possibility in our marketing and outreach. The editorial team is also excited to connect to new audiences now that in-person conferences have resumed. We want to deepen current connections to institutions in Africa and create new relationships that will expand our author and reader base. We also aim to intentionally encourage submissions in fields that are currently underexplored in the journal in order to strengthen coverage and our readership.

**As an inclusive interdisciplinary journal, which disciplines or intersections would you like to see more of in ASR?**

The interdisciplinary humanities remain underrepresented in the journal. We want to see more submissions in this area. The editorial team would also like to see more work in the humanistic social sciences, including fields such as economics and geography. I would like to reiterate that we seek to publish work in any field with clear interdisciplinary stakes for a wider African studies audience.

**Are there other exciting innovations we should look forward to such as new forums, prizes, or special issues?**

We are launching a new series, the Neglected African Voices Series, to provide a platform for recovering forgotten works of important African and African diasporic thinkers that extend scholarship in innovative ways. Many of these scholars, such as Sociology's Akinsola Akiwqwo worked on the continent, where they developed theories and ideas drawn from African epistemologies and experiences. We aim to recuperate these scholars' interventions by inviting essays highlighting their contributions. With this new series, the editorial team plans to generate renewed attention to the epistemological richness of African scholarship while also contributing to the urgent, ongoing decolonization efforts in academic scholarship. A comprehensive call for papers is forthcoming on this series.

In the coming years, the journal's special forums will be devoted to underrepresented topics and fields. This is aimed at expanding the journal's reach both in terms of submission and new readership. The editorial team invites ASA members to propose forums and contribute to pre-constituted ones. We also have other initiatives in the works that we will be unveiling in the coming months.





## Cajetan Iheka

Cajetan Iheka is Professor of English at Yale University, specializing in African literature, ecocriticism, ecomedia, and postcolonial literature. He serves as Chair of the Council on African Studies and Head of the Africa Initiative at Yale. He is the author of *Naturalizing Africa: Ecological Violence, Agency, and Postcolonial Resistance in African Literature* (Cambridge University Press, 2018), winner of the 2019 Ecocriticism Book Award of the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment, and the 2020 First Book Prize of the African Literature Association. His latest single-authored book is *African Ecomedia: Network Forms, Planetary Politics* (Duke University Press, 2021). The monograph, which positions Africa at the center of discourses on media ecologies, materiality, and infrastructure, received several awards. Among other awards, it won the 2022 African Studies Association Best Book Prize, and the Ecocriticism Book Award of the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment. Professor Iheka is editor of the MLA volume *Teaching Postcolonial Environmental Literature and Media* (2022). He also coedited *African Migration Narratives: Politics, Race, and Space* (University of Rochester Press, 2018), and *Environmental Transformations*, a special issue of *African Literature Today*.

Professor Iheka is currently working on a comparative study of the cultural and formal intimacies of African and Caribbean literatures. He is the Editor-in-Chief of *African Studies Review*, the multidisciplinary journal of the African Studies Association.

**Your book *African Ecomedia: Network Forms, Planetary Politics* (Duke University Press, 2021) won the 2022 ASA Best Book Award and several other esteemed prizes. What was the most enjoyable part of working on this book? What research or publications have you been working on since then?**

Let me thank the ASA and the prize committee again for the remarkable honor. I have admired the prize and its winners over the years but didn't even think it a remote possibility for my own work. It is still amazing that *African Ecomedia* won. To your question, I think the range of interdisciplinarity was what I enjoyed most about writing the book. I am, at heart, an "indisciplined" scholar, who wants to bring disparate materials together and make connections across fields. Of my books and articles, *African Ecomedia* was the one that most permitted—in fact required—that kind of interdisciplinary work. I really enjoyed my

scavenger hunt—moving and merging materials from media studies, the environmental studies, literary studies, science and technology studies, and African studies—as I worked on the book. In turn, it has been inspiring to see the book being read and engaged with beyond my primary area of expertise.

Since the book's publication, I continue to work on related projects on cinema and literature in Africa as a robust environmental archive. I am also working on a book that puts African literature in conversation with Caribbean literature as a generative locus of black internationalism.

**Your CV lists several types of publications prior to finishing your doctorate. What advice do you have for graduate students who are hesitant to publish during school? Do you have resource recommendations for those that need support and advice on how to publish their first article?**

I support graduate student publication. As someone who recently chaired a faculty search committee, I know that brilliant work published in reputable venues can boost an applicant's chances. Publishing can also help graduate students claim a professional identity and stake a claim to an area of expertise. I make these points while mindful that publishing can be a daunting experience. I encourage my graduate students to think of their seminar papers as germs for publishable work. A typical student in the humanities and social sciences will most likely produce between 6-9 seminar papers during coursework. I encourage students to seek feedback from their professors, mentors, and peers on their two most promising papers and develop them further, ideally during the summers before they start writing the dissertation. By the dissertation stage, they can hopefully send out one or two of these revised seminar papers. One can also rework a dissertation chapter as an article and send it out. That said, it is important not to overpublish from the

dissertation while in graduate school. Ultimately, it is helpful for graduate students to find a good mentor who can help them develop their scholarly voice and provide professional guidance as to the most suitable publication plan and venues.

Shameless plug here: The *African Studies Review* encourages submissions from graduate students and our timeline from submission to decision is excellent; please send us your best work.

I would conclude by recommending two books to graduate students: ASA member Wendy Laura Belcher's *Writing Your Journal Article in Twelve Weeks* and, for questions of style, Eric Hayot's *The Elements of Academic Style*.

*African Studies Review,*  
*History in Africa,* &  
ASA Emerging Scholars Network

# **PUBLISHING IMPROVEMENT PIPELINE FOR EMERGING SCHOLARS (PIPES): A SCHOLARLY JOURNAL PUBLISHING WORKSHOP**

**Wednesday, November 29, 2023**  
**8:00am – 5:00pm**  
San Francisco Marriott Marquis

**LIMIT OF 30 SEATS**  
**ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

# Katherine Luongo

Katherine Luongo is Associate Professor of History and International Affairs at Northeastern University, and earned her PhD in African History from the University of Michigan in 2006. She is the author of *Witchcraft and Colonial Rule in Kenya: 1900-1955* (Cambridge University Press, 2011), which was a finalist for the 2011 American Historical Association Martin Klein A. Award and the African Studies Association Bethwell Ogot Book Prize. With Matthew Carotenuto, she is the co-author of *Obama and Kenya: Contested Histories and the Politics of Belonging* (Ohio University Press, 2016). Her most recent book, *African Witchcraft and Global Asylum-Seeking: Border-Crossing Beliefs* will be published in April 2023 in Routledge's Law & Anthropology series. She serves as deputy editor of *African Studies Review*.



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**Witchcraft and esoteric traditions are currently trending in several fields and in popular culture, which you work on. During the 2016 elections, you wrote extensively on Barack Obama's Kenyan history. What inspired you to specialize in these subfields?**

A bit of serendipity, really. As a grad student, I was researching the House of Commons questions pertaining to Kenya from the 1930s and came across a question from a Labour MP to the Secretary of State for the Colonies about the 60 Wakamba men in Kenya who had been sentenced to death - unjustly in the MP's view - for killing a neighbor woman whom they believed to have been a witch. Following the trail of this case showed both how witchcraft-driven violence was related to much broader problems of justice and how such violence was (and remains) a lived reality. Once I started serving as an expert witness in witchcraft-based asylum cases, it became clear that the social and legal problems posed by witchcraft-driven violence were confined neither to the continent nor to the past.

*Obama and Kenya* also commenced with a chance encounter, this time at an election day party in Nairobi, rather than in the archives. My wonderful writing partner, Matt Carotenuto, and I observed the U.S. ambassador congratulate Raila Odinga, the foremost Luo politician, on Obama's senatorial win,

telling Odinga something to the effect of "Congratulations! Your 'son' has won." This sparked our thinking about how Obama's story was not just an American story, but also one of diaspora and autochthony, and our book evolved alongside Obama's ascendancy and administrations.

**How have recent undergraduates responded to your course content on these trending subjects? What recommendations do you have for engaging undergraduates in African Studies courses, particularly in the Humanities?**

With a little bit of incredulity at first, but mostly with a lot of curiosity. In African Studies courses, I often start with the questions: "What do we think we know about Africa and how did we come to know it?" We reengage those questions consistently throughout the term, which enables us to see how our understandings are developing, what myths and conventional wisdom we're able to disassemble, and the politics of how knowledge is produced and circulated. In terms of drawing



students to African Studies courses, students (like just about everyone) are often uncomfortable with the unfamiliar, and as we well know, regrettably, most students encounter virtually nothing about Africa at all in their primary and secondary education. I've found that including a strong focus on Africa in thematic seminars and surveys – for instance including units on Congo and South Africa in a survey on world history since 1945 – is an effective way to familiarize students with African history, to make the idea of studying Africa engaging, rather than daunting, and that students' interest is often piqued with just a little exposure.

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*African Studies Review* (ASR) is the flagship scholarly journal of the African Studies Association. The ASR publishes the highest quality African studies scholarship in all academic disciplines. The ASR's rigorous interdisciplinary peer review seeks to contribute to the development of scholarly conversations of interest to the diverse audience of the Association's membership and to the growth of African studies in North America, on the African continent, and in a global comparative context.

African Studies Association members receive free access to the online catalogue of *African Studies Review*, which includes FirstView articles, current issues, and archived volumes. Current members can log into MyASA to access the journal links.

The *African Studies Review* awards recognize the outstanding scholarly achievements of African studies scholars. In 2001, the African Studies Association Board of Directors established the Graduate Student Paper Prize for the best graduate student paper presented at the previous year's Annual Meeting. In 2020, the African Studies Review expanded its prizes to include the ASR Best Africa-Based Dissertation Award and the ASR Prize for Best Africa-focused Anthology or Edited Collection sponsored by Cambridge University Press.

ASR convenes a number of workshops and events to support scholarly publishing for emerging scholars in the US and on the continent. ASR also hosts the ASR Distinguished Lecture at the ASA Annual Meeting.

Cover Photo: Dr. Amina Mama gives the annual 2022 ASR Distinguished Lecture.

## NEGLECTED VOICES IN AFRICAN STUDIES SERIES

The *African Studies Review* invites brief proposals (500 words) for a new series, Neglected Voices in African Studies. With this initiative, the journal seeks to provide a space to highlight important, neglected, or understudied works by African and African diasporic thinkers whose contributions have broadened the horizons of their respective fields. Many such scholars worked on the continent in the mid to late 20th century, where they developed theories and ideas drawn from African epistemes and experiences. Nonetheless, their work has not been adequately examined or received the attention it merits. Now is the time to recuperate these important voices by bringing together articles and forums to highlight these scholars' contributions to African studies. We aim to generate renewed attention to the epistemological richness of African scholarship while also contributing to the urgent, ongoing decolonizing efforts in academic scholarship.

Potential contributors can propose a standalone article or a forum (2-3 articles) examining the contribution and significance of the proposed thinker's scholarship and its continuing relevance for African studies. Articles should be 7000-10000 words in length (including notes and bibliography) and will be subject to the journal's peer review process.

### Process

Submit a 500-word proposal to [managingeditor@africanstudiesreview.org](mailto:managingeditor@africanstudiesreview.org). The proposal should explain the rationale for studying the identified scholar/thinker and offer a timeline for completing the essay(s). If proposing a forum, include the names of contributors and brief abstracts of their essays. The proposal will be reviewed by the editorial collective and if approved, the author(s) will be invited to write and submit the manuscript for review following the journal's guidelines. Accepted essays will appear in the journal at the completion of the production process.

# ANNUAL MEETINGS: FROM DIGITAL TO IRL

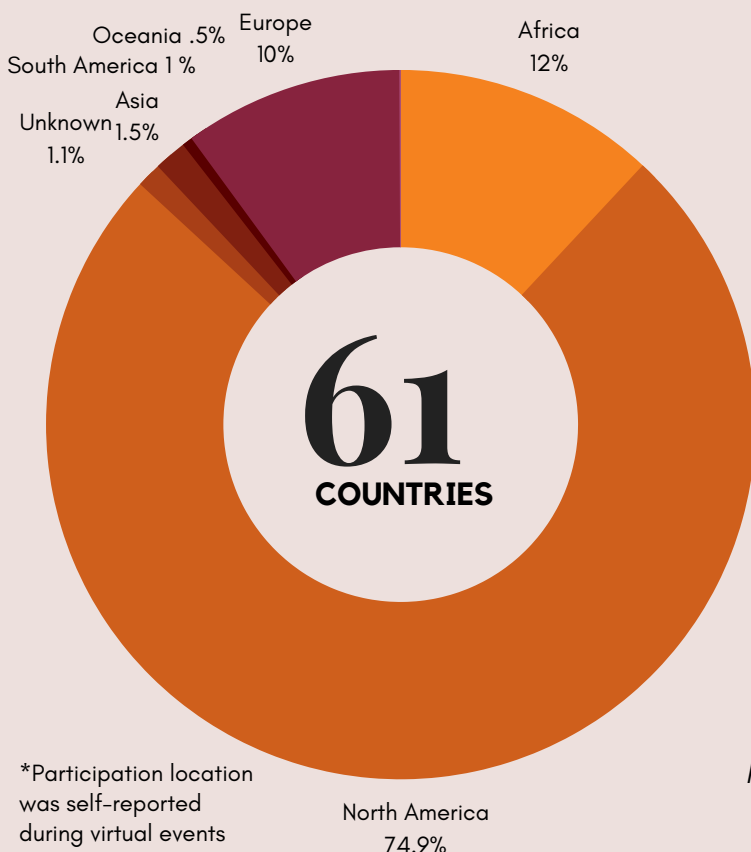
## by the numbers

Many of our meeting participants expressed gratitude and overall satisfaction at the conclusion of our second Virtual Annual Meeting in 2021 while others were just plain Zoom fatigued. With all the shifts ASA has experienced over the last few years, we thought it would be illuminating to review the shift from virtual to in-person events in a helpful infographic.

**32%** OF OUR ALL PRESENTERS WERE EMERGING SCHOLARS ON AVERAGE.

*While the Virtual Annual Meeting Survey revealed that most emerging scholar respondents desire some form of online programming, emerging scholar participation rates held steady in Philadelphia for an average of 32%.*

### VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION LOCATION



\*Participation location was self-reported during virtual events

**2,504**  
UNIQUE EVENT REGISTRANTS

**"It was an enriching experience. Being my first attendance to [an] ASA event I found it elating that such a space exists where all aspects of Africanness can be promoted and celebrated."**

**—Survey Respondent**

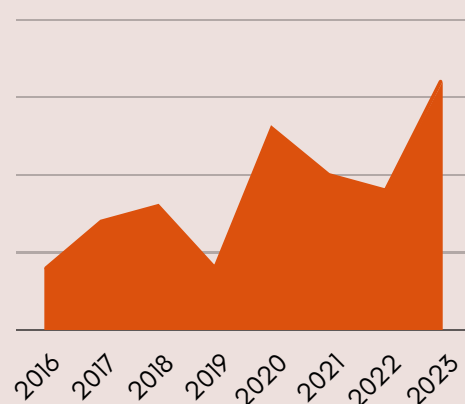
**46** CCNY SCHOLARS

*Thanks to the generous support of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the African Studies Association hosted 46 Fellows from the continent across both years.*

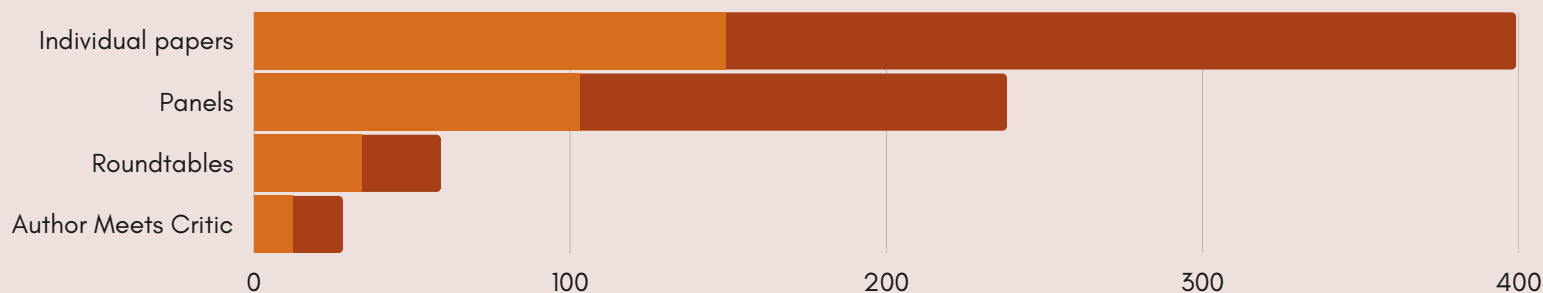
*Coordinate & Affiliate orgs together with publications sponsored triple digit sessions over two years.* **101** SPONSORED SESSIONS

### GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER PRIZE SUBMISSIONS

*Although submissions have increased overall since the prize was established in 2001, we still have a long way to go before even 1/4 of our Graduate Student presenters polish and submit a paper annually.*



## SUBMISSIONS BY SESSION TYPE



# 240

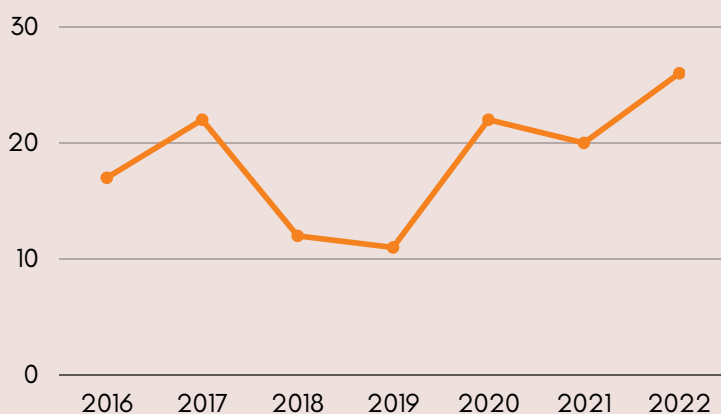
VIRTUAL EVENTS

# 310

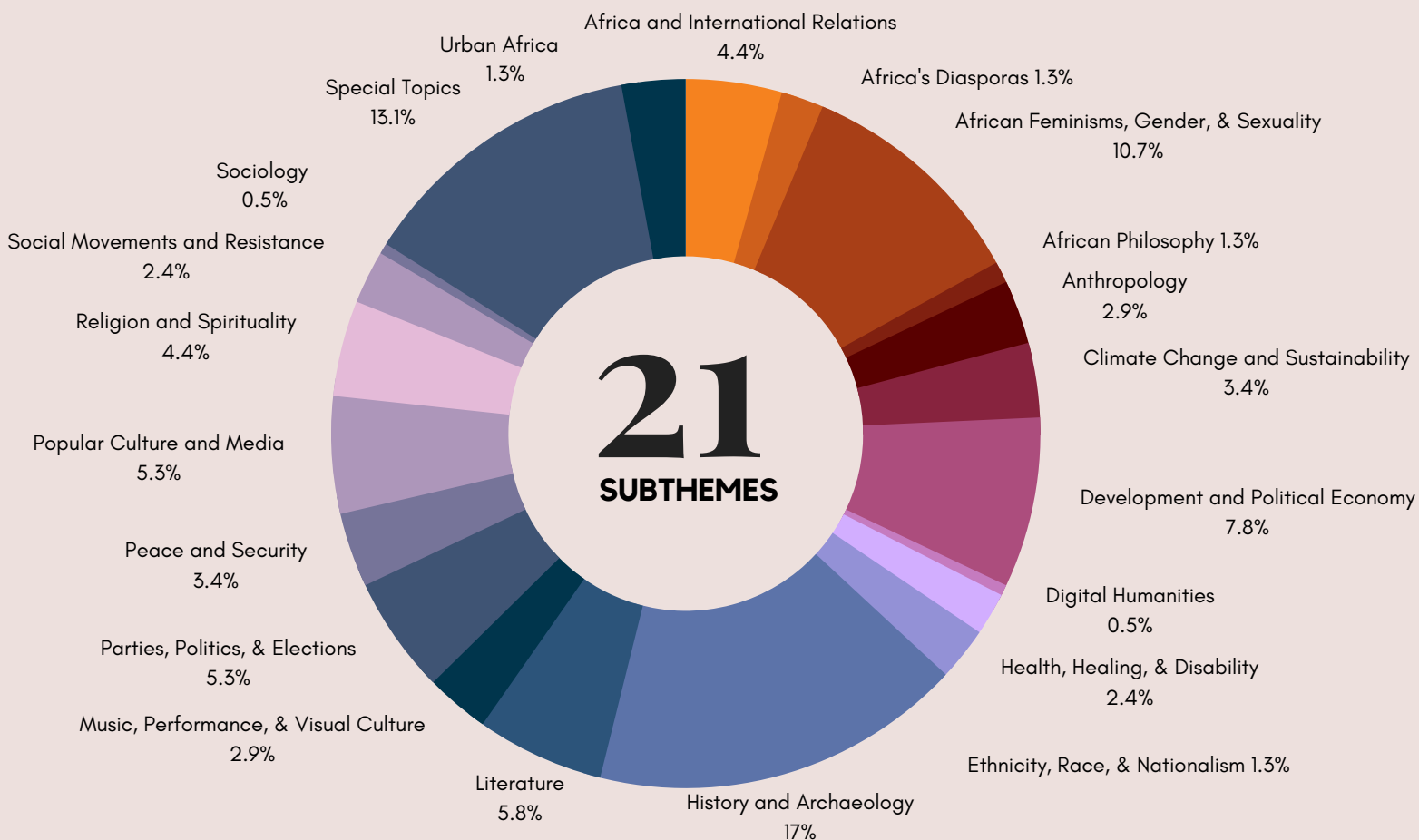
IN-PERSON EVENTS

## AFRICANOW! PRESENTATIONS

*Originally this shortened format was added to the ASA Annual Meeting program to support current events content. Over time, the submission category has evolved to also include practitioner reports, new research, alternative presentation formats, and memorials.*



## SESSION BREAKDOWN BY SUBTHEME





# ASA MEMBER NEWS

Celebrating the incredible accomplishments throughout our global community.

## Recent Member Publications

**Daniel Agbiboa**, Harvard University, *They Eat Our Sweat: Transport Labor, Corruption, and Everyday Survival in Urban Nigeria* (Oxford University Press, 2022).

**Daniel Agbiboa**, Harvard University, *Mobility, Mobilization, and Counter/Insurgency: The Routes of Terror in an African Context* (University of Michigan Press, 2022).

**Jochen S. Arndt**, Virginia Military Institute, *Divided by the Word: Colonial Encounters and the Remaking of Zulu and Xhosa Identities* (University of Virginia Press, 2022).

**Dorothee Boulanger**, University of Oxford, *Fiction as History: Resistance and Complicities in Angolan Postcolonial Literature* (Legenda, 2022).

**Dorothee Boulanger**, University of Oxford, "In the Centre of Our Circle': Gender, Selfhood and Non-Linear Time in Yvonne Vera's *Nehanda*" *Angelaki* 27: 223-35.

**Jennie Burnet**, Georgia State University, *To Save Heaven and Earth: Rescue in the Rwandan Genocide* (Cornell University Press, 2023).

**Todd Cleveland**, University of Arkansas, *Seguindo a Bola: A Importância dos Futebolistas Africanos no Império Colonial Português* (Infinito Particular, 2022).

**Sarah Derbew**, Stanford University, *Untangling Blackness in Greek Antiquity* (Cambridge University Press, 2022).

**Itamar Dubinsky**, Ben-Gurion University, *Entrepreneurial Goals: Development and Africapitalism in Ghanaian Soccer Academies* (University of Wisconsin Press, 2022).

**Theresah Patrine Ennin**, University of Cape Coast, Ghana, *Men Across Time; Contesting Masculinities in Ghanaian Fiction and Film* (NISC, 2022).

**Emmanuel Orihentare Eregare**, Babcock University, *Europeans and the Itsekiri of Nigeria (1884-2018)* (Forthcoming 2023).

**Jacob Ivey**, Florida Memorial University, "Divestment and Lemon Meringue Pie: Anti-Apartheid Movements at the University of Florida in Gainesville" *Safundi: The Journal of South African and American Studies* (Feb. 2023).

**Jacob Ivey**, Florida Memorial University, "Badges and 'Sticks': Police Power Dynamics and African Agency in Nineteenth Century Colonial Natal." *Journal of Natal and Zulu History* 35, 1 (2022).

**Sandra Joireman**, University of Richmond, *Peace, Preference, and Property: Return migration after violent conflict* (University of Michigan Press, 2022).

**Patrick Kabanda**, Independent Scholar, "On Cultivating African Architecture for the Africa We Need" *African Journal on Land Policy and Geospatial Sciences* (AJLP & GS) 5 (4): 848-67.

**Tamba M'bayo**, West Virginia University, "Soccer in Senegal: National Identity, Commercialization, and Acquisition of Wealth," in *Football (Soccer) in Africa: Origins, Contributions, and Contradictions* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2022), pp. 213-230.

**Tamba M'bayo**, West Virginia University, "Mediating a Complex Cultural Matrix: Indigenous Muslim Interpreters in Colonial Senegal, 1850-1920," in *Towards an Atlas of the History of Interpreting: Voices from around the World* (John Benjamins Publishing Company, 2023), pp. 120-144.

**Jacqueline-Bethel Mougoué**, University of Wisconsin-Madison, recently guest-edited the newest issue of *Feminist Africa*. The theme of the issue is "Gender and Sexuality in African Futurism."

**Mark Nyandoro**, University of Zimbabwe, "Emerging Smallholder Cotton Irrigation Agriculture and Tensions with Estate Labour Requirements in Sanyati, Zimbabwe, 1967-1990" *Journal of Southern African Studies* 48 no. 3, pp. 453-472.

**Mark Nyandoro**, University of Zimbabwe, "Zimbabwe's Post-2000 Elections: More Hotly Contested yet less Democratic than in the Past", *Journal of African Elections* (JAE) 21 no. 1, pp. 70-94.

**Mark Nyandoro**, University of Zimbabwe, "Colonial Agrarian Labour and White Settler Labour-Satiating Practices in Southern Rhodesia: The Cases of Rorke and Bartlett-Torr's Defence, 1950-1954" in *Agrarian Revolution in Zimbabwe: Beyond Land Settlement* (The University of Zimbabwe Press, 2023).

**Sarah M. Quesada**, Duke University, *The African Heritage of Latinx and Caribbean Literature* (Cambridge University Press, 2022).

**Marcia C. Schenck**, University of Potsdam, *Remembering African Labor Migration to the Second World: Socialist Mobilities between Angola, Mozambique, and East Germany* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2023).

**David Schoenbrun**, Northwestern University, "Vashambadzi: The Coast Walkers" in a special issue of the *Radical History Review* (2022) co-edited by Rosa Carrasquillo, Melina Pappademos, and Lorelle Semley on "Historicizing the Images and Politics of the Afropolitan."

**Shani Serah**, Mercy College, *Indigenous Elites in Africa: The Case of Kenya's Maasai* (Routledge, 2022).

**Marc Sommers**, Affiliated Researcher, *We the Young Fighters: Pop Culture, Terror, and War in Sierra Leone* (University of Georgia Press, 2023).

**Adriaan van Klinken**, University of Leeds, and Ezra Chiando, University of Zimbabwe, co-authored *Reimagining Christianity and Sexual Diversity in Africa* (Oxford University Press, 2021).

**Stephen Volz**, Kenyon College, "Z. K. Matthews and the Liberatory Potential of Education" *International Journal of African Historical Studies*, 55:3, 373-392.

**Bruce Whitehouse**, Lehigh University, *Enduring Polygamy: Plural Marriage and Social Change in an African Metropolis* (Rutgers University Press, 2023).

**Ogechukwu Williams**, Creighton University, "Medical Legitimacy: Childbirth, Pluralism, and Professionalization in Nigeria's Faith-Based Aladura Birthing Homes" *The Journal of African History*, 1-16.



**Duncan Yoon**, New York University, China in *Twentieth- and Twenty-First-Century African Literature* (Cambridge University Press, 2023).

## Member Announcements

**Saheed Aderinto**, Florida International University, was awarded the prestigious Dan David Prize, which recognizes outstanding scholarship that illuminates the past and seeks to anchor public discourse in a deeper understanding of history.

**Ousseina Alidou**, Rutgers University, has been awarded the Chancellor-Provost Award for Global Impact for 2022-2023.

**Christian Alvarado**, University of California Santa Cruz, was awarded the University of California President's Postdoctoral Fellowship in the UC Davis African American and African Studies Department.

**Jochen S. Arndt**, Virginia Military Institute, was promoted to Associate Professor of History.

**Susana Yene Chimy Awasom**, National School of Local Administration (NASLA), was recently appointed as the first female Director of the Research and Documentation Center of NASLA.

**Faith Ben-Daniels**, Akenten Appiah-Menka University of Skills Training and Entrepreneurial Development, was promoted to Associate Professor of African Literature.



SARAH F. DERBEW

# UNTANGLING BLACKNESS IN GREEK ANTIQUITY

**Sarah Derbew**, Stanford University, won the 2023 Association of American Publishers Prose Award for Classics for *Untangling Blackness in Greek Antiquity*.

**Emmanuel Orihantare Eregare**, Babcock University, won the 2022 Historien et Diplomat Students' Association Award of Excellence for Lecturer of the Year.

**Glime Yaa Asantewaa Glime**, University of Education, Winneba, Ghana, successfully defended her PhD dissertation: "Collections Management at Manhyia Palace Museum."

**De-Lawrence Lamptey**, Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital, is the first EMBARK Scientist in childhood disability research in Canada.

**Timothy Longman**, Boston University, was appointed Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the Pardee School of Global Studies.





**Megan Milan**, James Curry Publishers, is the new Commissioning Editor for James Curry following the retirement of Jaqueline Mitchell. She can be contacted at [mmilan@boydell.co.uk](mailto:mmilan@boydell.co.uk).

**Jaqueline Mitchell**, retired from the post of Commissioning Editor at James Currey at the end of March 2023, after 11 years in the position.

**Jacqueline-Bethel Mougoué**, University of Wisconsin-Madison, is the 2021 Co-Winner of the ASA Women's Caucus Aidoo-Snyder Prize.

**Jacqueline-Bethel Mougoué**, University of Wisconsin-Madison, was promoted to Associate Professor in the Department of African Cultural Studies.

**Tereza Němečková**, Metropolitan University Prague, was promoted to Associate Professor of International Economic Relations.

**Tereza Němečková**, Metropolitan University Prague, is a 2022 winner of a research grant from the Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa.

**Senayon Olaoluwa**, University of Ibadan, was awarded the 2023-2024 AfOx Fellowship at the University of Oxford for his book project on "Extalgia: Exile, Homeland Suffering and Creativity in African and Diaspora Experience."

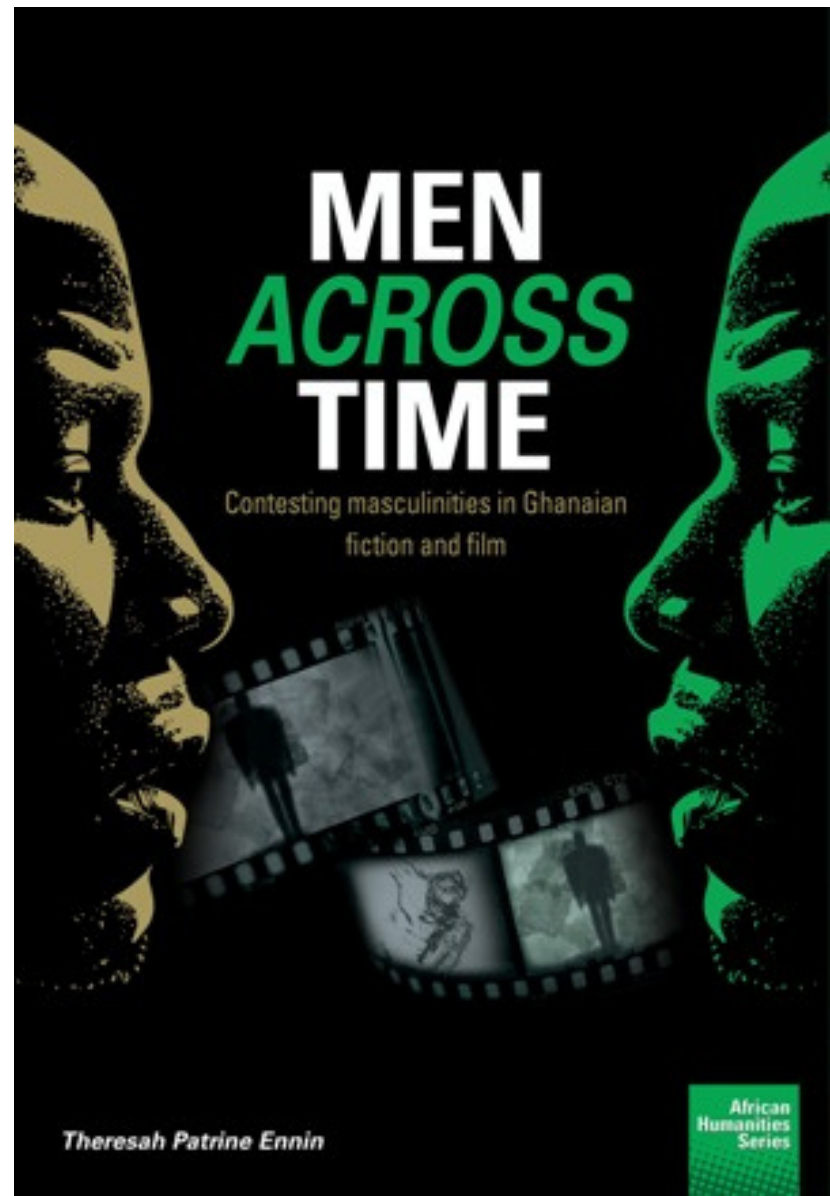
**Marcia C. Schenck**, University of Potsdam, is a 2022-2023 fellow at the IAS Historische Kolleg in Munich, Germany.

**Nicholas Tunanukye**, Makerere University, defended his dissertation, "A History of Migrancy, Nativism and Citizenship in Uganda, 1894-1995" and is now a Lecturer at Makerere University.

**John Uwa**, University of Lagos, was the 1st runner up in the 2022 Rahamon Bello Award for the best PhD thesis in African and Diaspora Studies.

**Wendy Wilson-Fall**, Lafayette College, was promoted to Professor of Africana Studies.

*To share a new publication, position, promotion, dissertation, award, fellowship, or other exciting update, visit our Submit Your Member News page on our website [africanstudies.org](http://africanstudies.org).*



# 2023

## SAN FRANCISCO, CA

NOV. 30 - DEC. 2



## African Studies Association 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

### African Presences: Envisioning Africa in Text and Deed

**Program Chairs:** Claudia Gastrow (University of Johannesburg) and Shobana Shankar (Stony Brook University)

In 2023, the African Studies Association (US) will host one of three congresses in the Sixth International Congress of African and African Diasporic Studies (ICAADS). We see this as an excellent opportunity for reflection on the possibilities for African Studies to be a more inclusive and democratic project. The idea of African presences celebrates the multiple ways in which Africans have transformed the world. The Sixth ICAADS in 2023 also marks the 60th anniversary of the Organization of African Unity, an organization which at its founding sought to create solidarity amongst people across the continent and beyond in the search for substantive freedom and independence. In recognition of these aspirations, we invite participants to approach the question of African presences across time and space, with Africa being constituted in different kinds of bodies, locations, and moments, through many media: text, deed, visual culture, orality, and other modes.

In understanding African presences as stretching across physical and intellectual borders, this call sees African-American Studies, Africana Studies and Black Studies as central to the constitution and creativity of African Studies. It seeks to open up conversations that recognize the historical links between these fields and the futures that can produce collaboration between them. Therefore, African presences must also be understood within the conditions of diaspora past, present, and future—forced and unforced, and the ways in which the study of Africa and Africans in informal and formal spheres is conditioned by relations of power. Educational institutions have long been, and continue to be, sites of struggle that cannot be separated from the conditions of knowledge production. In this spirit we invite contributions that think through the solidarities and contestations that have shaped African life on and beyond the continent. These include histories of enslavement, empire building, anti-colonial struggle, Pan-African and Third World solidarity, and Black internationalism as well as new practices and forms of global Black solidarity and social movements in the wake of the Arab Spring, Black Lives Matter, #FeesMustFall, #EndSARS, and transnational calls for decolonization.

The theme of African presences is not new—it may recall the long-running era-defining *Presence Africaine* publication and its many creators or the UNESCO General History of Africa series begun in 1964 to confront the disinformation about the continent and its peoples in European and American knowledge-production. We have been inspired by these earlier projects that refused the separation of Africa from the African Diaspora and that rejected depictions of African diversity as disadvantage or disjointment from global processes and transformations. We recognize the enormity of African presences in what may appear as local: material artifacts such as Queen Njinga's letters in Portuguese archives and in the everyday life of quilombos in Brazil. African centrality to global popular culture is heard in music sensations such as Burna Boy, genres such as amapiano and dance styles such as kizomba that have remade international embodiments and soundscapes. African political imaginations and movements have reshaped and reconfigured changing geographies of cooperation: in anti-colonial struggles, socialist solidarities during the Cold War, and more contemporary African demands for decolonization stemming from student movements and agitations for gender equality. As such, the notion of presences enables us to imagine multiplicity, but also the negotiations of difference in and across struggles for unity.

In seeking to open a discussion about African presences, we invite papers which reflect on what constitutes African presences, as well as the possible implications of loss of presence, for imagining change, hope, solidarity, and contestation across the many spaces and timescapes of Africa. These could include investigations of knowledge formations, histories of activism, indigenous food systems, environmental concerns, new technoscapes, oceanic worlds, reparations, emerging forms of solidarity, transnational racial capitalisms, Africa's multiple diasporas, and any broader topics that seek to better understand the world-making projects of Africans across the globe. We recognise the diversity of ways of understanding African presences and especially welcome submissions that make use of or provide insight into the possibilities for collaboration and engagement across disciplinary and methodological approaches.

As always, submissions that fall outside the scope of this theme statement are welcome.



## 2023 Subthemes:

**Africa's Diasporas:** Kudus Oluwatoyin Adebayo (University of Ibadan, Nigeria) and Alan Cobley (University of the West Indies)  
**African Feminisms, Gender, & Sexuality:** Shireen Hassim (Carleton University) and Ndubueze Mbah (University at Buffalo)  
**African Philosophy and Thought:** Albert Kasanda (Czech Academy of Sciences) and Benedetta Lanfranchi (University of Bayreuth)  
**African Politics and Policy:** Lisa Mueller (Macalester College) and Njoki Wamai (United States International University-Africa)  
**Anthropology, Society, & Material Culture:** Michael Degani (University of Cambridge) and Elieth Eyebiyi (DHI CREPOS Senegal and LASDEL Benin/Niger)  
**Development and Political Economy:** Gana Ndiaye (Beloit College) and Elisabeth McMahon (Tulane University)  
**Education and Pedagogy:** Shane Carter (University of California Berkeley), Agness Leslie (University of Florida), and Elsa Marie Wiehe (Boston University)  
**Ethnicity, Race, & Nationality:** Johanna Lukate (Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity) and Christopher Tounsel (University of Washington)  
**Food, Environments, & Agricultural Politics:** Jessie Luna (Colorado State University) and Laura Ann Twagira (Wesleyan University)  
**Health, Healing, & Disability:** Marissa Mika (University of California Berkeley) and Nana Osei Quarshie (Yale University)  
**History and Archaeology:** Prinisha Badassy (University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg), Roy Doron (Winston-Salem State University), and Harry Odamtten (Santa Clara University)  
**Literature and Language:** Carmen McCain (SOAS University of London) and Mona Mwakalinga (University of Dar es Salaam)  
**Mobility, Migration, & Borders:** Rogaia Abusharaf (Georgetown University) and Nicole Eggers (University of Tennessee, Knoxville)  
**Music, Performance, & Visual Culture:** Nina Baratti (PHD candidate, Harvard) and Ruth Sacks (University of Johannesburg)  
**Peace, Law, & Security:** Samuel Fury Childs Daly (Duke University)  
**Popular Culture and Media:** Izuu Nwankwọ (Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz)  
**Religion and Spirituality:** Musa Ibrahim (Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology) and Daria Trentini (Drake University)  
**Science and Technology:** Emma Park (The New School) and Noah Tamarkin (Cornell University)  
**Social Movements, Activism, & Resistance:** Toivo Asheeke (Georgia State University) and Ruy Blanes (University of Gothenburg)  
**Urban Africa:** Samuel Shearer (University of Washington in St Louis)  
**Special Topics:** Claudia Gastrow (University of Johannesburg) and Shobana Shankar (Stony Brook University)

## ASA ICAADS PARTICIPATION

We are honored to collaborate with the Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD), the African Studies Association of Africa (ASA-Africa), and Africa Is a Country (AIAC) to bring to fruition the Sixth International Congress of African and African Diaspora Studies (ICAADS). Each Association will host ICAADS programming during their Annual Meeting in this multi-sited global event. These events will serve as a forum to reflect on the broadly shared histories, contemporary realities, and to affirm the future destinies of continental Africans and African-descended people across the globe through concrete policy discussions that have transnational relevance. One of the primary goals is to place academics at the center of policy discussions, as the drivers of change.

To participate in the ASA's ICAADS program, prepare and submit a panel or roundtable proposal and check the ICAADS box during submission. If your proposal is accepted, you will be asked to draft a [co-authored white paper](#) to present and workshop during the ASA Annual Meeting in San Francisco. Finalized white papers will be collected at the end of the event, catalogued, and potentially presented again with other ICAADS papers. Any proposals that are not accepted to our ICAADS segment will be considered for our regular program. Read more about the collaboration and other ways to participate in ICAADS events on our [joint website](#).

Possible topics could include but are not limited to:

- Reparations
- The Repatriation of African Artifacts
- Neocolonial & Pan-Africanism
- Gender & Sexuality
- Re-engaging the 6th region of the African Union
- Citizenship
- The State and Policing
- Environment and Public Health
- The Status and Treatment of African Migrants
- Africa's Positions Regarding International Conflicts
- The State of the Study of Africa and its Diasporas in the World Today
- Africa in Primary Education



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## LILY ATONIO

### *PROGRAMS MANAGER*

Hailing from central Wisconsin, Lily Atonio joins the ASA Secretariat as Programs Manager. She has a bachelor's degree in International Studies with an emphasis on Global Security and a minor in African Studies from the University of Wisconsin - Madison. Lily brings nearly a decade of association experience as well as higher education administration. She has extensive experience developing programs and learning opportunities for all levels of international learners.

She is happy to return to the field of African Studies, a love that was solidified during her time in Senegal at the Université Gaston Berger. When not at the ASA, Lily enjoys spending time with family solving BBC mysteries before the fictional television detectives do. Her work music playlist ranges from Afrobeats to opera and Tuvan throat singing.

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# MEET THE SECRETARIAT.



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## NATHALIE AGBESSI

### *ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE ASSISTANT*

Nathalie Oluwakemi Agbessi is a Nigerian woman born in Lomé, Togo to a Nigerian mum and a Beninese dad. She completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria and is currently in her second year of an M.A. in French and Francophone Studies at Rutgers University. She will soon be starting her PhD focusing on Francophone African Literature.

When she is not reading or working, she enjoys listening to music, watching documentaries, or caring for her plants. She especially enjoys traveling. One of the most beautiful places she has ever visited is Puerto Rico - home to tiny frogs called the coquis which serenade residents with their beautiful sounds.

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# MEET THE SECRETARIAT.



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## REED COUVILLON

### *EMERGING SCHOLAR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT*

Reed Couvillon is a Rutgers University doctoral student studying Modern Francophone Africa's history. His research interests include nationalism, identity and citizenship, women's activism, and state-building in post-independence Benin.

Reed has been a member of ASA since 2018 when he was a master's student at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and has been a member of the Emerging Scholars Network (ESN) Executive Council since 2021. Through his work with the ESN, Reed has facilitated workshops, panels, and mentoring activities for graduate students and early career professionals. In his new position as the Emerging Scholars Administrative Assistant, Reed will continue to support the professional and academic development of early career scholars.

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# MEET THE SECRETARIAT.



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## AMRI' LITTLEJOHN

### *UNDERGRADUATE INTERN*

Amri' Littlejohn is a Tulsa native who is passionate about bringing positive social change to her community. She is currently an honor student completing a bachelor's degree in History/Political Science and Religion at Bethany College. Amri' was the 2023 recipient of the Spencer Bartlett Senior Respect Award for her activism throughout her undergraduate career. Amri' is a leader for change, who embraces inclusivity in her work and community organizing. As the founder of multiple organizations such as the Bethany College Black Association of Student Scholars and the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, Amri' has created safe, creative spaces for underrepresented communities.

Prior to entering college, Amri' delivered a Ted X Talk entitled, "I named my jeans Billie." In her free time, she enjoys reading and writing poetry, exploring various visual arts, and films from the 70s.

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# MEET THE SECRETARIAT.



The 2023 ASA Annual Meeting will be held in San Francisco, CA from November 30 - December 2. A pre-conference workshop on scholarly journal publishing will be held November 29. For more event information, visit our Annual Meeting information page at [africanstudies.org/annual-meetings](https://africanstudies.org/annual-meetings).

# STATE OF THE ASSOCIATION

During the 2023 Annual Meeting, the ASA Board of Directors voted on the action items listed below. The 2023 board members are:

**Adérónké Adésolá Adésànyà**, *President*  
**Gretchen Bauer**, *Vice President*  
**Ousseina Alidou**, *Past President*  
**Timothy Longman**, *Treasurer*  
**Adeline Masquelier**, *Ombudsperson*  
**Nana Akua Anyidoho**, *Member*  
**Yacine Daddi Addoun**, *Member*  
**J. Jarpa Dawuni**, *Member*  
**Rita Kiki Edozie**, *Member*  
**Abdoulaye Gueye**, *Member*  
**Rachel Jean-Baptiste**, *Member*  
**Mucha Musemwa**, *Member*  
**Robert Trent Vinson**, *Member*  
**Bright Nkrumah**, *Emerging Scholars Representative*



## 2022-2023 Board Decisions

- The Board approved a motion to adopt the Women's Caucus Statement and Policy Recommendations on The Ongoing Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Gender and Equity in Academia.
- The Board voted to co-sign the American Council of Learned Societies Statement in Support of Academic Freedom and New College of Florida.
- The Board voted to co-sign the American Historical Association Statement Opposing Florida House Bill 999.
- The Board voted to co-sign the American Council of Learned Societies Statement on the Effort to Undermine Academic Freedom in Florida House Bill 999.
- The Board approved an ICAADS MOU with ASWAD, ASAA, and Africa is a Country.
- The Board approved a five-year extension of the ASA's contract with Rutgers University.
- The Board approved a five-year publications contract renewal with Cambridge University Press.
- The Executive Committee voted to hold the 2023 Annual Meeting in San Francisco, California.



# 2023 DISTINGUISHED AFRICANIST AWARD

NOMINATIONS DUE APRIL 30

# 2023 OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

NOMINATIONS DUE APRIL 30

# 2023 GRETCHEN WALSH BOOK DONATION AWARD

NOMINATIONS DUE APRIL 30



# 2023 ASA FILM PRIZE

NOMINATIONS DUE MAY 15

NOMINATIONS CLOSED:

# 2023 BETHWELL A. OGOT BOOK PRIZE

NOMINATIONS DUE APRIL 1

# 2023 ASA BEST BOOK PRIZE

NOMINATIONS DUE APRIL 1

JOIN US FOR AN  
ASA MEMBER EXCLUSIVE EVENT

# FULBRIGHT U.S. SCHOLARS PROGRAM:

800+ AWARDS ANNUALLY  
TO 135+ COUNTRIES

A discussion with Fulbright Alumni **Omi Davis-Smith** (Guinea - Dance), **Scott Lacy** (Mali & Cameroon - Anthropology), and **Tamba M'Bayo** (Sierra Leone - History)  
Cosponsored by the **Fulbright Scholar Program**.

MAY 1 | 2:00PM EDT

VIA ZOOM

LINK WILL BE AVAILABLE IN MYASA