

ASA NEWS

ENHANCING THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ABOUT AFRICA

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PAST & PRESENT

In this crucial moment for U.S. Higher Education, ASA explores the impact of African studies research and teaching from an array of disciplines and perspectives.

AN AFRICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION PUBLICATION

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

These are challenging and uncertain times. We are experiencing a swift, systematic assault on educational funding and academic freedom, identities and bodily autonomy, legal immigration and the right to representation, and our first amendment right to free speech, among many other things. The (re)emergence of global far right movements, the rise of unabashed international white supremacisms, and the proliferation of post-factual narratives and conspiratorial thinking have touched every ASA member in some way.

There are differences of opinion, political and generational, on how we as an organization should respond to these multiple and compounding crises. The tenor of these debates, while impassioned, should remain collegial and be guided by the understanding that we are ultimately united. We understand that not all modes of action are visible to every constituent within our vast networks and some members may be wondering, “Where is the ASA in all this?”

We are here, working diligently around the clock on a multi-pronged action plan. We are grateful to the many members who have written to us and attended urgent convenings in recent days to share their thoughts on how we can intervene, support, and advocate, in various ways. The process of building consensus around differing philosophies of activism makes us stronger as an Association and a community. Above all, our developing action plan is guided by our mission and remains true to our core organizational values.

As an Association, we need member mobilization and sustained participation to succeed. There are things you can do right now:

1. [Submit an Impact Statement](#). We are soliciting statements that demonstrate the value of African studies work to America as a whole. We are deploying all useful entries to congressional staffers as they come in. There is more bipartisan support on Capitol Hill than some might think, but we must continuously demonstrate our centrality to corporate and national competitiveness and career readiness in this moment. You can read Phiwohuhle Mnyandu’s fantastic submission (p.7) for inspiration.
2. Sign up for our [15-Minutes Online Teaching Series](#). We are asking members to give 15-minute talks in their area of expertise aimed at curious students, colleagues, and the public. Talks will be recorded via Zoom and featured on ASA’s social media to reach a broad audience.
3. [Donate](#). ASA is mobilizing resources and exploring ways we can support our most vulnerable members in this moment. If you have the means, please consider making a gift of any size. All contributions help us provide life and career changing opportunities.

ASA is fortunate to be a member of several institutional coalitions. These [Allied Organizations](#) play a critical leadership role in times of upheaval and they have been essential partners as we organize. We are stronger when we stand together, and we will continue to work in unison whenever possible.

I want to conclude by reminding our members of the ASA Ethical Conduct Guidelines on academic freedom. These words have been codified into ASA’s guiding principles for well over a decade and will continue to be central to our orientations as we persist through the challenges ahead:

The African Studies Association is dedicated to the promotion of teaching, research, and professional endeavors with respect to Africa with the widest possible freedom of inquiry and dissemination of findings to the wider public in the United States and abroad. Defense of academic freedom, as it concerns the intellectual and professional interests of members, both individual and institutional, is a fundamental role of the Association.

As members of their communities, Africanists have the rights and obligations of other citizens. They measure the urgency of these obligations in light of their responsibilities to their subject, their professions, their students, their colleagues, and the university or professional associations to which they may belong. As citizens engaged in professions that depend upon freedom for their health and integrity, Africanists have a particular obligation to promote conditions of free inquiry and the principles and public understanding of academic freedom.

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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.

ADVOCATING FOR AFRICAN STUDIES ON CAPITOL HILL

Christian Alvarado, President's and Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow
University of California, Davis.

On March 11th, 2025, approximately two hundred humanistic scholars, university administrators, and representatives from the nonprofit sector knocked on the doors of Senators and Congresspeople to make the case for federal funding that supports our institutions and organizations in myriad ways. Each year, the National Humanities Alliance's annual Advocacy Day offers a unique opportunity to speak directly with elected officials and their staff about the pressing issues confronting Humanities scholars in the academy, the students we serve, and the broader communities we are a part of. Beyond this general function, the African Studies Association's sponsorship of delegates ensures that the funding streams and government agencies that we have historically relied upon as Africanists receive the emphasis that they deserve.

As a native of Las Vegas with strong connections to academic and electoral constituencies across Nevada, I was assigned to advocate for the Humanities on behalf of the Silver State. Our delegation was relatively small, consisting only of myself and Delainey Boyd of Phi Beta Kappa. This size, however, provided the chance to share in-depth my personal experience as an African Studies scholar who has benefitted from federal resources — including Title VI-funded language training, programs housed in Africa-focused National Resource Centers, and initiatives supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Over the course of the day, Delainey and I met with Hill staff whose portfolios cover diverse political orientations and legislative priorities, and who had varying degrees of understanding of the work done by Humanities scholars in local communities. We worked to provide practical information and foster greater understanding about the direct impact of federal funding on local electoral constituencies. Our delegation visited the offices of elected officials in the Senate and the House, both Democrat and Republican,

all of whom expressed support for the Humanities in different ways. Most notably, we had the privilege of speaking directly with Congresswoman Dina Titus (Co-Chair of the Congressional Humanities Caucus), whose previous career as a professor of Latin American politics granted us a friendly ear for the impact of federal funding on African Studies scholars.

Our delegation of two played a small but important role in the broader efforts of the NHA over the course of the day, and we crossed paths regularly with colleagues advocating for the Humanities in the offices of Republicans, Democrats, and Independents. Alongside the ability to speak across these political divisions, advocating in this environment presented a unique challenge in another way: the day of our visit to Capitol Hill coincided with the House's March 11th vote on the Continuing Resolution that has since been signed into law by President Trump. For the legislators and staff we engaged with, our advocacy for the Humanities was part of a workday attuned to fast-moving budgetary discussions on matters as diverse as Social Security, Department of Defense funding, and agricultural subsidies. Coupled with the shifting commitments and priorities that have emanated out of the Executive Branch over the last two months, the tumult we found ourselves in presented a challenging context to operate within. Yet in spite of this, it became increasingly clear over the course of the day that supporting the Humanities has a larger degree of bipartisan support in Congress (both quiet and loud) than one might imagine from polarized understandings of the national political climate.

Thus concluded our efforts on the Hill on Tuesday, only to wake up the following morning to news of mass terminations at the Department of Education. These cuts included the staff of key agencies that service African-language educational programs and study-abroad infrastructures like Fulbright-Hayes. And on Thursday, news broke of the Trump Administration's demand that Columbia University's Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies (MESAAS) Department be placed into academic receivership: a process that shifts the locus of departmental control firmly into the hands of upper administration. Just hours removed from our time on Capitol Hill, this underscored even more profoundly

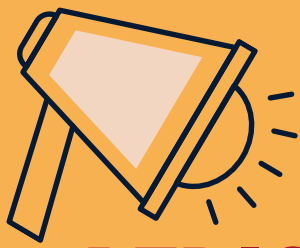


the urgency of acting upon the core mission of the African Studies Association itself — to “encourage the production and dissemination of knowledge about Africa, past and present” — in today’s political climate. There is hope in the fact that bipartisan support for the Humanities exists among legislators in Washington DC. But, more than this, such developments are a reminder that producing engaged research, organizing in our capacity as scholars, and fighting for our communities are responsibilities we all share in this moment.

African Studies faces many of the same challenges as other fields in the academy today. The erosion of long-established funding models, encroachment on academic freedom, and the simple fact of operating under conditions of profound uncertainty are aspects of the current climate that impact humanists, social scientists, and STEM scholars alike. But we also have our own, unique set of issues to confront. The targeting of programs that foster international exchange, build cultural competency across difference, and challenge narrow visions of the national interest impacts the African Studies community in ways that exacerbate existing asymmetries in institutional power and funding priorities. In the sustained attempt it will require to push back on this, ASA’s participation in the NHA’s Advocacy Day was a single step (and indeed an important one) on the long road in front of us.

Initiated in 2017, the ASA Advocacy Travel Award provides travel subsidies of \$1,000 to ASA member constituents to facilitate their attendance at federal advocacy events in Washington, DC each spring. The ASA believes it is critical for our members to be represented at advocacy events, and for the voices of the field of African Studies to be heard by representatives on the Hill as they prepare to make key decisions about funding for international education, the humanities, social sciences, and higher education as a whole. Applications will open in early January 2026.





SUBMIT TO THE 2025 AFRICAN STUDIES REVIEW PRIZES

1

GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER PRIZE

Nominations due March 15, 2025. Any paper presented by a graduate student at the 2024 ASA Annual Meeting is eligible.

2

BEST AFRICA-BASED DISSERTATION

Nominations due April 15. Dissertations must have been defended during the previous calendar year (2024) and can be submitted in any language.

3

BEST AFRICA-FOCUSED ANTHOLOGY OR EDITED COLLECTION

Nominations due April 30. Titles must have been published during the previous calendar year (2024) and can be submitted in any language.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

AFRICANSTUDIES.ORG/PUBLICATIONS/AFRICAN-STUDIES-REVIEW-PRIZES/

RESEARCH & TEACHING IMPACT: THE SOFT POWER OF LANGUAGE LEARNING

Dr. Phiwokuhle Mnyandu grew up in the beautiful country of South Africa. Through his work as Assistant Director at the Howard University Center for African Studies, as well as his interdisciplinary research and teaching, he lives his passion for student success and mentorship. He is a sought-after analyst on US-China-Africa relations and author of *South Africa-China Relations: Between Aspiration and Reality in a New Global Order* (2021). His current research interests engage the intersection of AI and African languages and cultures.

Years before beginning my current position as Assistant Director at Howard University's Center for African Studies, the largest Africa-focused National Resource Center and Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) recipient by student enrollment, I already had a deep appreciation for the evolving role of African languages in the global economy. Firstly, my Ph.D. studies were partially funded by my research assistant position where I worked on the E-SCALES project on machine learning for two African language - Swahili and Zulu. This was a collaboration between Howard University, Carnegie Mellon, and the US Army Research Lab. Secondly, while conducting my dissertation research in China, I was intrigued by the extent to which Chinese universities were steadily focusing on African art and African languages and setting up research centers. For art, one such research center, in Zhejiang province, was geared towards innovation that served local economic objectives, allowing Chinese companies to carve a sizeable market share in the African garment print industry, a dominance they still hold.

When it comes to African languages and my current

work of managing the programmatic support for Amharic, Arabic, Somali, Swahili, Twi, Yoruba, Wolof, and Zulu, I have continued to appreciate the further inroads China has made in integrating African language into tech. Increasingly, African languages serve as gateways to cultural competency beyond simple acquisition, but also in ways that contribute to making the US globally competitive in fields not typically associated with them.

Students are increasingly able to gain a deep understanding of the cultures, people, and societies where these languages are spoken. They attain deep expertise on an increasingly significant region of the world, indeed a strategic one for the United States. In an era where ascendant powers such as China have gained a foothold and are enjoying rising levels of influence in Africa, the work of supporting American students in their study of African languages and by extension African societies, is in no small part contributing to equipping these students with cultural competency skills that help them be more competitive in whatever major they have chosen.



Real stories of students I have experienced and mentored, speak for themselves. A film student of Swahili gains confidence in pronouncing most African multi-syllabic names, thereby able to be more competitive in their next audition without the need for a coach; an ROTC student of Somali gains a unique understanding of a society where his work may well involve subject-matter engagement in that society; an International Relations student Wolof with ambitions of working in the State Department, learns the extent to which West African power dynamics between nation-states are ordered by language.

But there is another intriguing, newer, and even more dynamic way I have found African languages are helping to prepare students for what is an increasingly multidisciplinary global economy. A Computer Science undergraduate student of Yoruba goes on to a Ph.D. program where they design code in Yoruba, a language spoken by 50 million people; a Zulu Sociology student with study abroad experience in South Africa goes on to be a Congressional staffer using their deep understanding of the political dynamics of South Africa gained through their expertise-by-language. These are all true stories of real students I have come across in my small corner.

Competitors, such as [China](#) and [Russia](#) who have dedicated resources to learn and develop these same languages, not only to strengthen their cultural diplomacy with key African countries but, most consequentially, gain a market share in these languages as engines of innovation in tech, especially AI. For example, a cursory analysis of Chinese AI tool, DeepSeek, unveiled in early 2025, reveals that it has quite an impressive proficiency for almost all the African languages mentioned in this article. Competitors, including China, have been outspoken about their commitment to further deepening of [‘soft power’ cooperation and influence on the African continent](#). In no insignificant part, the work I do, which I hope to continue, is to prepare students for this global dynamic. Maintaining resources for this work is more than a purely academic objective, it is a strategic one.





The 2025 ASA Annual Meeting will be held in Atlanta, GA from November 20 – 22. A pre-conference Publishing Improvement Pipeline for Emerging Scholars (PIPES) Workshop will be held November 19. For more event information, visit our Annual Meeting information page at africanstudies.org/annual-meetings.

2025 EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY AFRICA PUBLICATION FELLOWS

The African Studies Association (ASA) and American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ASECS) are thrilled to welcome 12 joint 18th-Century Africa Publication Fellows for 2025.

Thanks to generous **funding from the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS)**, ASECS and ASA have jointly designed a one-year fellowship to engage early career scholars often underrepresented in their fields. Twelve fellows have been selected to participate in both the 2025 ASECS virtual Annual Meeting and the 2025 ASA Annual Meeting in Atlanta, which include publishing workshops to improve scholarly journal publication outcomes.

The 2025 Eighteenth-Century Africa Publication Fellows Include:

Justine Ajao, University of Toronto, "Scales of ruin and restitution: tracing the epistemologies of Bilali Mohammed, a Georgia Sea Island plantation manager"

Deena Al-halabieh, University of California, Santa Barbara, "Resisting Western Paradigms: The Life of Omar ibn Said and the Politics of Translation"

Allegra Ayida, Yale University, "A Painting in Paris; An African prince in 18th century France"

Jack Casey, New York University, "The Black Atlantic from Caribbean Central American Shores: Haitian Auxiliaries and the Garífuna in Omoa and Trujillo, 1797-1821"

A. Véronique Charles, Columbia University, "Abolition in Two Acts: Freedom's Gains and Losses in the Imperial Republic, 1789-1802"

Myriam Carmen Iuorio, University of Toronto, "'Conjurers, Witches and Sorcerers': Recovering Early Modern West Central African Healing Practices"

Jessica M. Johnson, University of Oregon, "In Splendid Court Dress: William Armfield Hobday's Portrait of Prince Saunders and the Reception of African Nobility in Georgian Britain"

Ethan Key, Boston University, "Rivals to Power: How a Mother and Daughter-in-Law Fought to Change the Ethiopian Imperial Court"

Umar Sheikh Tahir, Columbia University, "West African Hajj 'Travel lodge': Impacts of Royals and Clerics on Economic and Intellectual Expeditions"

Tim Soriano, University of Illinois, Chicago, "The 'Landlord- Stranger' Land Tenancy Relationship in Early Sierra Leone: A Reassessment"

Matthew Steele, Yale University, "Reforming the Sharī'a in 18th Century Africa: Ṣāliḥ al-Fullānī (d. 1218/1803-4), the Legal School, and Sindh"

Duangkamol Tantirungkij, City University of New York, "'Petition of Jenny, a woman of colour': chattel slavery and the fur trade in Detroit during the American Revolutionary War and its aftermath"

Look for two special sessions on the ASA Annual Meeting program featuring our Eighteenth-Century Africa Publication Fellows. Want to hear about their experience? Tune in next year to the Spring 2026 edition of ASA News.

2025

ATLANTA, GA

NOV. 20 - 22



African Studies Association 68th Annual Meeting

Crossing Boundaries and Recovering Intellectual Traditions

Program Chairs: Pedro Monaville (McGill University) and Anatoli Ignatov (Appalachian State University)

This call for papers for the 68th Annual Meeting of the ASA invites participants to reflect on the politics of knowledge in African studies. We aim to engage with the structural inequalities and erasures that continue to exist within our fields of study; and to interrogate the relevance of African studies for Africa and the world. Critical voices have addressed these issues within and through African studies time and again. A few years ago, James Pritchett and then Jean Allman used the ASA presidential lectern to remind us about the decades-old marginalization of Black voices within African studies. In the call for papers for the 63rd annual meeting of the association, Prinisha Badassy and Carina Ray centered the persistence of racialized structures of power in the study of Africa. Four years later, Alice Kang and Olajumoke-Haliso also emphasized questions of power and the need to reconsider how African studies “approaches, positions, and interprets Africa.” The 68th annual meeting heeds these and other past efforts to address questions of relevance and potentialities, while fostering new conversations around the plurality of systems of knowledge, bodies of ideas, and imaginaries that have mediated social, cultural, and political lives in Africa.

We invite submissions that explore the role of African thinkers and intellectual traditions in developing forward-looking ways of thinking about the contemporary condition of multiple, intersecting crises: the crisis of late capitalism, leading to growing socio-economic inequalities and precarity; the crisis of the nation-state and liberal democracy, signified by the global resurgence of far-right populism; the crisis of militarism, made visible by the suffering and deaths of thousands of people fueled by record high world military expenditure; and the ecological crisis, which has not only threatened life on earth as we know it, but has also exposed sharp differences of people’s abilities to be resilient across North-South divides, as well as inequities in the distribution of climate hazards faced by historically marginalized populations. We welcome papers that highlight the enduring presence in Africa of diverse institutions, concepts, and thought systems of universal significance that enable us to shed light on such pressing conditions and dilemmas of the present.

Here we welcome for instance contributions that challenge mainstream narratives of democracy and human rights in Africa as one of transfer from the West. This includes papers that engage the various strategies of imagination, experimentation, and politics of possibility advanced by Africans in struggles for freedom and self-determination from slavery, colonialism, and neocolonialism. We welcome papers that examine the plurality of conversations that intellectual traditions such as Negritude, Pan-Africanism, Humanism, and African Socialism have inspired not only across Africa and the African diaspora but also between Africa and the rest of the world regarding freedom, rights, emancipation, international morality, and justice.

We encourage submissions that reflect on how African traditions, institutions, and concepts travel across disciplinary, geographical, and cultural boundaries, taking on new meanings and lives beyond their sites of origin and new relations of creolization. For example, the global circulation of African concepts of humanity such as ubuntu has enlarged philosophical understandings of what it means to be human in close interdependence with past, present, and future human generations and with the natural environment. It has contributed to the emergence of new articulations of Afro-ecofeminism, degrowth, post-development, and restorative justice ranging from Africa to Turtle Island. Theories of African socialism, expressed in concepts such as Nyerere’s ujamaa, have advanced possibilities of constructing socialist models in non-European societies and visions of sovereign equality and wealth redistribution in a new international economic order. Sankara’s and Maathai’s far-sighted visions of ecological justice, which conceived of the struggles for green Burkina and Kenya as broader global struggles, have now taken on a new life of large-scale collective tree-planting initiatives such as the Great Green Wall.

We do not merely ask for contributions on how African intellectual traditions circulate across different ethical, disciplinary, and geographical contexts and boundaries. We encourage proposals that explore what productive engagements can be forged at the point where such traditions are no longer transferable, or their limits of translatability become evident. And we seek contributions that enlarge our understanding of what counts as “African intellectual traditions,” archives, and modes of knowledge production including engagements with texts – oral, manuscript or print – and archives of local thought and commentaries produced outside the literary or academic mainstream. This is also a call for revisiting the neglected contributions of African women, as many scholarly approaches still too often ignore their significance as thinkers, makers, and dreamers.

It is striking to notice how the need to account for the challenges of Africa in the 21st century has resulted in recent years in repeated returns towards earlier histories of political struggles on the continent, with scholars returning to the legacy of African thinkers and activists who offered visions of liberation and transcended the colonial order by imagining worlds rooted in solidarity, self-determination, and radical transformation. We invite papers that examine the circulation and reinterpretation of these “canonical” thinkers and their changing reception in everyday life, popular culture, street art, and social media networks. Recent reappraisals of critical voices from the past are not limited to political leaders; they also encompass the work of African scholars whose voices were previously neglected within the canon of African studies. There is a growing movement to reclaim the contributions of these scholars, from established academics whose ideas travelled internationally, to those who have worked in more localized, non-institutional contexts. We invite participants to reflect on how to further sharpen our methodological and conceptual approaches in ways that make possible engagements with figures whose works and ideas complicate the universalizing frameworks imposed by established academic paradigms.

African studies create the possibility to embrace diverse ways of knowing, and resist the essentialization of African experiences through narrow, externally imposed lenses. This requires crossing multiple boundaries: disciplinary, geographical, and epistemological. What are the new archives emerging from these crossings? Which marginalized, forgotten, and poorly understood authors and thinkers are being recentered? And which kinds of conceptual reframing remain to be done?

Final Submission Deadline: Saturday, March 22 11:59pm eastern

2025 SUBTHEMES:

Africa's Diasporas: Harry Odamtten (Santa Clara University)

African Feminisms, Gender, & Sexuality: Naminata Diabate (Cornell University)

African Philosophy and Thought: Wendell Marsh (Rutgers University at Newark)

African Politics and Policy: Nicholas Rush Smith (City University of New York)

Anthropology, Society, & Material Culture: Vanessa Watters Opalo (Georgetown University)

Cities, Urban infrastructures, & Publics: Nathan Plageman (Wake Forest University)

Climate Change, Sustainability, & Environment: Omolade Adunbi (University of Michigan)

Development, Political Economy, & Agrarian Studies: Rama Salla Dieng (University of Edinburgh)

Education and Pedagogy: Olayinka Olagbegi-Adegbite (University of Wisconsin)

Health, Healing, & Disability: Julia Cumiskey (Johns Hopkins University)

History and Archaeology: Catherine Porter (Hampton University)

Identities, Belonging, & Cultures: Rafael Cesar (Princeton)

Literature and Language: Mandisa Haarhoff (Penn State)

Mobility, Migration, & Borders: Jill Rosenthal (Hunter College, CUNY)

Music, Performance, & Visual Culture: Andrew Eisenberg (NYU Abu Dhabi)

Peace, Law, & Security: Veronica Nmoma Robinson (University of North Carolina at Charlotte)

Popular Culture and Media: Katrien Pype (KU Leuven)

Religion and Spirituality: Gana Ndiaye (Yale)

Science and Technology: Tasha Rijke-Epstein (Vanderbilt)

Social Movements, Activism, & Resistance: Naseemah Mohamed (University of Virginia)

Special Topics: Pedro Monaville (McGill University) and Anatoli Ignatov (Appalachian State University)

Meet the 2025 Program Chairs

The ASA's Program Chairs work hard behind the scenes to craft the CFP theme, develop unique and timely subthemes, and gather brilliant subtheme chairs to review your submissions among many other things. This year's volunteers Anatoli Ignatov and Pedro Monaville have done an amazing job, all while maintaining their regular research and course load. Get to know them and their scholarship, and don't forget to read their complete call for the 2025 Annual Meeting in Atlanta.



Anatoli Ignatov is an Associate Professor of Sustainable Development at Appalachian State University. His research interests include African political thought, postcolonial theory, ecological political theory, legal pluralism, Indigenous political theory, critical development studies, land politics and rights in Ghana, and interpretive methodologies. He is currently completing a monograph, *Indigenous Eco-politics: Earth Jurisprudence and Plural Diplomacies in Ghana*. The book challenges Eurocentric traditions of political theory that ignore African ecology-based notions of sovereignty, and which reproduce the fiction that sovereignty is a singular, exclusively human authority linked to a state. The book highlights nonstatist and more-than-human forms of diplomacy, authority, and law that African earth custodians, chiefs, and soothsayers have enlisted to mediate relations with alterity, and that colonial governance and postcolonial statehood

have sought to erase or domesticate. Anatoli's scholarly work has appeared in *Africa*, *Political Theory*, *GeoHumanities*, *Contemporary Political Theory*, *Theory & Event* as well as numerous edited volumes.

I am looking forward to our annual meeting in Atlanta as an opportunity to discuss African contributions to contemporary debates about central themes in international life and politics such as global justice, peace, sovereignty, human and Indigenous rights, intergenerational rights and rights of Nature, and international morality. I am particularly interested in conversations that approach Africa and its diaspora as a rich and dynamic source of "universal" ideas and concepts of humanism that challenge us to think anew about what it means to be human. The contemporary multiplication of climate, economic, and humanitarian crises, as well as growing democratic deficits in national and global politics, are swiftly exposing the limits of the humanisms bound up with Western capitalism, imperialism, and liberal modernity. I invite contributions that explore the diverse intellectual traditions of African humanism that have inspired liberation movements and postcolonial imaginaries of global order, from the struggles against slavery to decolonization and anti-Apartheid to contemporary youth movements for racial, gender, and climate justice. How can African intellectual traditions provide us with resources to think productively about these crises and reimagine just and sustainable futures?



Pedro Monaville is Associate Professor of History at McGill University. His research focuses on colonial and postcolonial Congo. His first book, *Students of the World: Global 1968 and Decolonization in the Congo* (Duke University Press, 2022) investigates how the Congo's first generation of university students in the 1960s introduced and mediated new ideas about culture, politics, and the world. In this book, Monaville shows how students reimagined the Congo as a decolonized polity by connecting their country to global discussions about revolution, authenticity, and equality. Monaville's ongoing research centers on questions of knowledge production, popular culture, and the connections between visual arts and history. One of his current projects is a biography of the late Congolese scholar Tshikala Kayembe Biaya; and he is the co-editor, together with Nancy Rose Hunt, of a volume about the work of the Bandes-Dessinées artist Papa Mfumu'Eto the First.

This might not be very original, coming from a historian, but I am looking forward to our next annual meeting in Atlanta for opportunities to collectively reflect on the past to face the challenges of the present. I eagerly invite contributions that continue the critical conversations about the politics of African studies that Black scholars started several decades ago. I am also particularly interested in papers and panels that revisit Africa's rich intellectual history and recover powerful voices that may have been marginalized, silenced, or forgotten. One last important question I am interested to center at the conference is about opening up of African studies: how do we ensure we make space for writers, we learn from artists, and we welcome intellectuals that don't work in academia?

African Studies Association in collaboration with
African Studies Review,
History in Africa, &
 ASA Emerging Scholars Network

PUBLISHING IMPROVEMENT PIPELINE FOR EMERGING SCHOLARS (PIPES): A SCHOLARLY JOURNAL PUBLISHING PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP


Wednesday, November 19, 2025

8:00am – 5:00pm

Atlanta Marriott Marquis

Submissions (6,000 words minimum) Due by May 1

ASA Annual Meeting Registration Required to submit



ASA BYLAWS REFERENDUM

State law has changed a lot since ASA's last referendum in 2008. This year's Bylaws Referendum will give ASA members the opportunity to support the organization with a 'yes' vote in April. Read our FAQs and the proposed Bylaws to learn more about the referendum.

Why is ASA holding this referendum?

The ASA has not comprehensively reviewed and updated its Bylaws in 40 years. Many of the current Bylaws were written and approved in two referendums in 1985 and 1988. ASA's last referendum was in 2008, which successfully amended part of the Bylaws to allow for electronic voting. The 2025 referendum is intended to fully update the ASA Bylaws to meet current state and federal laws governing 501c3 non-profits. Any changes to the Bylaws must be made in accordance with ASA's referendum policy ([Policies & Procedures](#) Section X). After months of careful work in consultation with legal counsel, the Board of Directors approved the referendum during its December 11, 2024 Board Meeting in Chicago.

Which parts of the Bylaws are being amended?

Every part is being amended. ASA's current Bylaws contain circuitous language and pro forma legalese that no longer meets legal standards. The proposed Bylaws use clearer, more direct language with the goal of creating greater transparency while meeting current legal requirements.

How can I find a copy of the proposed Bylaws?

They are below and can be distributed via this link: africanstudies.org/asa-news/2025-asa-bylaws-referendum/

Is my vote important?

YES! For ASA to better reflect current realities and to ensure fulfillment of the Internal Revenue Service Governance Requirements for Non-Profit Organizations, members must vote.

What percentage of the vote is needed to amend the Bylaws?

A "yes" vote from a majority of the returned ballots is required to amend the Bylaws.

When and how can I cast my vote?

The referendum will open with the 2025 Board of Directors election on April 1 and close May 15, 2025. To vote in both, you must be a current ASA member. Members will receive an email from Simply Voting with voting instructions. Members will have the chance to vote for the Board of Directors and the Bylaws referendum on the same ballot.

How will I find out the results of the referendum?

Within three business days of the referendum, ASA will post the results online and share them with members via email. Please check africanstudies.org and your inbox at that time.

XVI. AFRICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION BYLAWS

ARTICLE I. Purpose

The African Studies Association, Inc., hereafter the Association, is incorporated for the purpose of supporting and furthering African studies through the production and dissemination of knowledge.

ARTICLE II. Members

Any person who is interested in African studies may become a Member of the Association upon application and payment of dues. Any member whose dues are in arrears shall be dropped from the roll. Members who have been dropped may be reinstated at any time by the payment of one year's dues. Members shall have the right to vote for elected Directors of the Association and on such other matters as are presented to the membership. Members shall receive such periodicals and notices as the Association shall from time to time distribute. Only members in good standing shall have the right to vote or hold office in the Association.

ARTICLE III. Board of Directors

Section 1: The Board of Directors shall consist of not less than three (3) nor more than twenty-one (21) persons.

Section 2: The Board of Directors shall meet twice annually.

Section 3: The Board of Directors shall conduct the business, manage the property, and care for the general interests of the Association. The Board of Directors shall fix the amount of dues and the date on which any change of dues becomes effective. It may appoint such committees as it deems necessary. The Board of Directors shall call an annual meeting of the Association at a place and time it deems appropriate. It shall report to the membership on its deliberations and actions through the publications and at the business meeting.

Section 4: To transact necessary business between meetings of the Board of Directors, there shall be an Executive Committee composed of the President, Vice President, Past President, Treasurer, and committee chairs.

Section 5: At all meetings of the Board, the presence of two-thirds of the Directors shall be necessary and

sufficient to constitute a quorum except as otherwise provided by law.

Section 6: Any Director or the entire Board of Directors may be removed, with or without cause, by a majority vote of current association members. Any board member may resign at any time.

ARTICLE IV. Officers

Section 1. The officers of the Association shall be a President, who shall serve as Chairperson of the Board, a Vice President, Past President, an Executive Director, and a Treasurer, and such other officers as the Board of Directors deems necessary from time to time for the proper operation of the Association.

Section 2: At the end of the Vice President's term of office, the outgoing Vice President shall automatically assume the office of President at the annual business meeting. If the office of Vice President is vacant or if the Vice President should decline to serve as President, the President shall be elected in accordance with the procedures outlined in Article V.

Section 3: The Vice President shall be elected annually by the Members in accordance with the same procedures required for the election of Directors outlined in Article V.

Section 4: At the end of the President's term of office, the outgoing President shall automatically assume the office of Past President at the annual business meeting. If the office of President is vacant or if the President should decline to serve as Past President, the Past President shall be elected in accordance with the procedures outlined in Article V.

Section 5: The Executive Director shall be the chief executive officer of the Association. It shall be their duty, under the direction of the Board of Directors, to oversee the affairs of the Association, to have responsibility for the continuing operations of the Association, to supervise the work of its committees, to assist in the formulation of policies and projects for submission to the Board of Directors, to execute instructions of the Board of Directors, sign contracts bonds, or other authorized instruments, to maintain

accurate records of assets, liabilities, and transactions, and to perform such other duties as prescribed in Policies and Procedures and determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 6: The Board of Directors shall appoint a Treasurer and shall determine their length of service and compensation, if any. The Treasurer shall be responsible for oversight of the Executive Director in the custody of the funds of the Association, and the maintenance of accurate and adequate records of the assets, liabilities, and transactions of the Association. In general, they shall perform all the duties incident to the office of Treasurer and other duties as may from time to time be assigned by the Board of Directors. If the office of the Treasurer is vacant due to removal or resignation, a Treasurer will be appointed in accordance with these bylaws and Policies and Procedures.

ARTICLE V. Elections

Section 1: All Directors are either elected or appointed in accordance with these bylaws and Policies and Procedures.

Section 2: The Directors shall be elected annually from among the Members, in three (3) groups so that the terms of only one such group shall expire each year. A Director shall be elected to serve until the third ensuing annual business meeting following the Director's election. Appointed Directors or those elected to special designation seats may serve other term lengths in accordance with these bylaws and Policies and Procedures.

Section 3: The Nominating Committee shall nominate at least one (1) but not more than three (3) candidates, who shall be members of the Association, for each vacancy for the office of Director.

Section 4: The candidate receiving the highest number of votes for each vacancy shall be elected. In the event of a tie vote, the Elections Committee shall hold a run-off election.

Section 5: The Board of Directors may fill any vacancy caused by death, removal, or resignation in its own membership or in the membership of any elected committee by designating (1) one of its own members, (2)

a past Director, or (3) a recently elected incoming member to serve ad interim until replaced by a member elected in accordance with customary procedures at the next practicable annual election.

ARTICLE VI. Meetings

Section 1: Notice of meetings including special meetings or business meetings, shall be served no less than ten nor more than 60 days before the meeting.

Section 2: Notice of the two annual Board of Directors meetings shall be served no less than thirty days before the meeting.

Section 3: At any voting meetings of the Members the presence in person of 20% of the Members shall be necessary and sufficient to constitute a quorum, except as otherwise provided by law. No proxy may be voted at any such meeting.

ARTICLE VII. Committees

Section 1: The Board of Directors may, at its discretion and according to its Policies and Procedures, constitute and appoint standing or ad hoc committees. Members of such committees that are not Directors may serve as consultants to the Board of Directors but may not vote at Board meetings.

Section 2: The Board of Directors defines the duties of all standing and ad hoc committees. The Executive Director is an ex-officio member of such committees.

Section 3. Each Committee shall keep regular minutes of its meetings and report the same to the Board upon request. Two-thirds of the members of any committee may constitute a quorum, and committees may establish their own rules of procedure and hold their meetings as provided by such rules, except as may otherwise be provided by a resolution of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII. Finances

Section 1: The Board of Directors is legally responsible for the financial well-being of the Association. The Board will approve a budget for the coming fiscal

year at its annual fall meeting.

Section 2: The fiscal year of the Association shall end on December 31 of each year.

Section 3: No loan shall be contracted on behalf of the Association unless authorized by the Board.

Section 4: Association funds shall be deposited in and dispersed from such banks, trust companies, or other depositories selected by the Board of Directors, and in accordance with the Policies & Procedures. The Board of Directors may select to delegate this power, including the signing of checks and delivery of payments on behalf of the Association, to any employee or officer as a regular duty or temporary responsibility during periods of transition.

ARTICLE IX. Indemnification

Unless expressly prohibited by law, any person made a party to any action, suit, or proceeding by reason of

the fact that he or she is or was a director, officer, or employee or agent of the Association or of any corporation which they served as such at the request of the Association, shall be indemnified by the Association to the fullest extent provided by law.

ARTICLE X. Amendments

Amendments to these bylaws may be proposed by: (1) the Board of Directors, (2) petition to the Board of Directors of 20% or more members in good standing. The Board of Directors is responsible for the review of any proposed amendments, their lawfulness and proposal in good faith. Any approved amendment proposal shall be reported to the membership with clear pros and cons, if appropriate, and shall be included in the next Directors election or a special amendment vote. Any amendment receiving a plurality of the votes cast in the election shall be considered adopted. The bylaws shall be posted publicly on the Association's website.

Vote Yes

ON THE 2025 ASA BYLAWS REFERENDUM

ASA's last bylaws referendum was in 2008! State laws have changed a lot since then, and ASA needs your help to stay in compliance. Help our organization get back on track by voting "yes" on the updated bylaws during the Board of Directors election starting April 1.

Questions? Email us at members@africanstudies.org



The 67th ASA Annual Meeting was held in Chicago, IL from December 12-14, 2025 at the Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile.



ASA'S 67TH ANNUAL MEETING: A PHOTO ESSAY

ASA celebrated its 67th Annual Meeting last December in the beautiful city of Chicago. With a sizable community in the region, ASA enjoyed record attendance since the pandemic. The convening boasted more than 390 sessions and events including emerging scholar programming, plenary sessions with celebrated guests, and a diverse array of research sessions highlighting interdisciplinary research and teaching from across the academy.

The 2024 Annual Meeting was a special convening from the start. The Association received 599 proposals, its largest number since the COVID-19 pandemic, spanning 21 subthemes. History and Archaeology was the most popular session category accounting for 12.8% of the program, followed closely by African Politics and Policy with 11.5%. While these subthemes often dominate the submission cycle, ASA was excited to see an increase in Music, Performance, & Visual Culture; Philosophy and Thought; and Africa's Diasporas sessions, among others. 83 of the sessions were sponsored by Coordinate, Affiliate, and Allied Organizations underscoring the importance of these special interest groups within the ASA community.

Annual Meeting attendance was incredibly diverse, with approximately 1,800 attendees representing over 60 countries and 600 institutions and organizations. 39% of Annual Meeting attendees were emerging scholars. This was a notable increase of nearly 10% from past meetings. ASA was honored to host 10 Emerging Scholar Fellows from African institutions, thanks to the generous support

of the Carnegie Corporation of New York. The meeting also included special events for emerging scholars such as the [Professionalization and Career Training \(PACT\) Pre-conference Workshop on podcasting with the generous support of MSU's MATRIX and African Studies Center](#). In addition, ASA's Annual Meeting included a Mid-Career Mentorship event and Sports Africa Trivia Night for emerging scholars and first time attendees. The Emerging Scholars Network hosted sponsored sessions covering a variety of timely subjects and launched their ESN Whatsapp group to share scholarly events and professional development opportunities.

ASA was especially honored to host 33 exhibitors, advertisers, and sponsors in Chicago. The exhibit hall was home to several special events and activities including a Thursday morning coffee break. Overall, the 67th Annual Meeting was a brilliant success thanks to the inspiring contributions of all attendees.

The vibrant images in the following essay were captured by Lori Sapio Photography.

STARTING STRONG

ASA invited volunteers, former Presidents, and donors to enjoy a drink and celebrate another year of African studies programming. President Gretchen Bauer delivered the Presidential Lecture followed by the Opening Reception.





One of the most important aspects of the Annual Meeting are the hallway conversations. Members run into colleagues and pose for pictures with friends in between sessions and other events.



FRIDAY FESTIVITIES

ASR celebrated its prize winners followed by the ASR Distinguished Lecture delivered by Chika Okeke-Agulu. ASA hosted Her Excellency Abena P.A. Busia as the 2024 Hormuud Lecturer. Her talk addressed on the importance of the diaspora.





More than 33 exhibitors and sponsors engaged Annual Meeting attendees, displayed and sold member books, and held meetings in their booths.



THE GRAND FINALE

On Saturday, more than 100 members gathered for the Women's Caucus Luncheon which included a lecture by Dr. Naminata Diabate. Later that evening, ASA hosted its Awards Ceremony which included honoring 2024 donors.





Following the Awards Ceremony, which honored distinguished prize winners and ASA CCNY Fellows, ASA hosted its annual dance party with special guest DJ FINDING IJEOMA.



JOIN US FOR AN
ASA MEMBER EXCLUSIVE EVENT



UNDERSTANDING THE CONGO CRISIS: GEOPOLITICAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS PERSPECTIVES

The war in the Congo is the latest surge in a prolonged infringement on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. This presentation will explain Congo's political crisis through geopolitical, economic, military, and human rights dimensions. Understanding the Congo requires an appreciation of the fact that its modern history runs in parallel to the evolution of key stages of the global economy. The Congo's mineral wealth made possible the emergence of the automobile industry, the Industrial Revolution, the success of the Allied Forces in WWII, and the life-altering information technology that powers laptops and cell phones and key industries around the world. Through speakers and video clips, the webinar will highlight the challenges of nation-building amidst competing local, regional, and global interests, and how this reality has critical implications for the human rights of the Congolese people, and the entire African continent. The presentation also shares the entrepreneurship and fortitude that the Congolese people exemplify in the face of these odds.

Co-Hosted by:
Kongo Academy &
Congolese Studies Association

APRIL 3 | 2:00 PM EDT

Zoom Link will be available to
ASA Members in MyASA



CONGOLESE STUDIES ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION DES ÉTUDES SUR LE CONGO



**JOIN US FOR AN
ASA MEMBER EXCLUSIVE EVENT**



**CO-HOSTED BY:
KONGO ACADEMY &
CONGOLESE STUDIES ASSOCIATION**

UNDERSTANDING THE CONGO CRISIS: GEOPOLITICAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS PERSPECTIVES

**APRIL 3 | 2:00PM EDT
ZOOM SEMINAR**

Link will be available to
ASA Members in MyASA



CONGOLESE STUDIES ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION DES ÉTUDES SUR LE CONGO





ASA

MEMBER NEWS

Celebrating incredible accomplishments throughout our global community.

Recent Member Publications

Adekunle Adu, Kwara State University, "Rethinking Techno-culture in African Organology: The Making of the Electro-Djembe Drum."

Dotun Ayobade, Northwestern University, *Queens of Afrobeat: Women, Play, and Fela Kuti's Music Rebellion* (Indiana University Press, 2024).

Jude Cocodia, University of the Free State, *Complex Solutions to Local Problems: Constructed Narratives and External Intervention in Somalia's Crisis* (Anthem Press, 2024).

Robert Dibie, ed., Fort Valley State University, *Transforming Healthcare in Africa: A Comparative Analysis* (Anthem Press, 2005).

Elizabeth Foster, Tufts University, *African Catholic: Decolonization and the Transformation of the Church* (Harvard University Press, 2019) is now available in French as *Les catholiques africains: décolonisation et transformation de l'Église* (Karthala, 2025).

Casey Golomski, University of New Hampshire, *God's Waiting Room: Racial Reckoning at Life's End* (Rutgers University Press and Wits Press, 2024).

Katherine Hallemeier, Oklahoma State University, *African Literature and US Empire: Postcolonial Optimism in Nigerian and South African Writing* (Edinburgh University Press, 2024).

Beth Lyons, Independent Scholar, *Race, Culture and Mental Illness in the International Criminal Court's Ongwen Judgment* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2024).

Juliana Makuchi Nfah-Abbenyi, North Carolina State University, "I don't mean to be Racist but . . . Home and the Politics of Belonging" *Feminist Formations* Vol. 36 Issue 3 (Winter 2024).

Laura Meek, University of British Columbia, "Shit Voyeurism, Anti-Blackness, and the Spherical: Rendering Antibiotic Use in Africa" *Catalyst: Feminism, Theory, Technoscience* Vol. 10 n. 2 (2024).

Laura Meek, University of British Columbia, "On Epistemic Aporias and the Coloniality of (My) Categories" *American Ethnologist* 52(1): 90-99 (2025).

William Moseley, Macalester College, *Decolonizing African Agriculture: Food Security, Agroecology and the Need for Radical Transformation* (Agenda Publishing, 2024).

Singumbe Muyeba, University of Denver, *The Homeowner ideology: Economic (F)Utility of Real Property Rights in Four African Cities* (University of Michigan Press, 2025).

Shadrack Nasong'o, Rhodes College, *Kenya and the Politics of a Postcolony* (Anthem Press, 2024).

Kwaku Obosu-Mensah, Lorain County Community College, "Chinese Migrant Activity and the Devastating Effects on Ghana's Resources and People", in Sabella Abidde (ed.) *Pros and Cons of China and the Chinese in Africa* (Springer, 2025).

Rogers Orock, Lafayette College, and **Peter Geschiere**, University of Amsterdam, *Conspiracy Narratives from Postcolonial Africa: Freemasonry, Homosexuality, and Illicit Enrichment* (University of Chicago Press, October 2024).

Joan Ricart-Huguet, Loyola University Maryland, **Jack Paine**, and **Xiaoyan Qiu**, "Endogenous Colonial Borders: Precolonial States and Geography in the Partition of Africa" *American Political Science Review* 119(1), 1-20 (2025).

Jenan Riley, El Colegio de México, "Caught at the Border" *Africa is a Country* (February 21, 2025).

Rose Sackeyfio, Winston Salem State University, Guest Editor, "Special Focus Issue: The African Novel in the Twenty-first Century: New Vistas of Postcolonial Discourse" *Journal of Postcolonial Writing* Vol. 60.5 (October, 2024).

Anooradha Siddiqi, Columbia University, *Architecture of Migration: The Dadaab Refugee Camps and Humanitarian Settlement* (Duke University Press, 2024).

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

Member Announcements

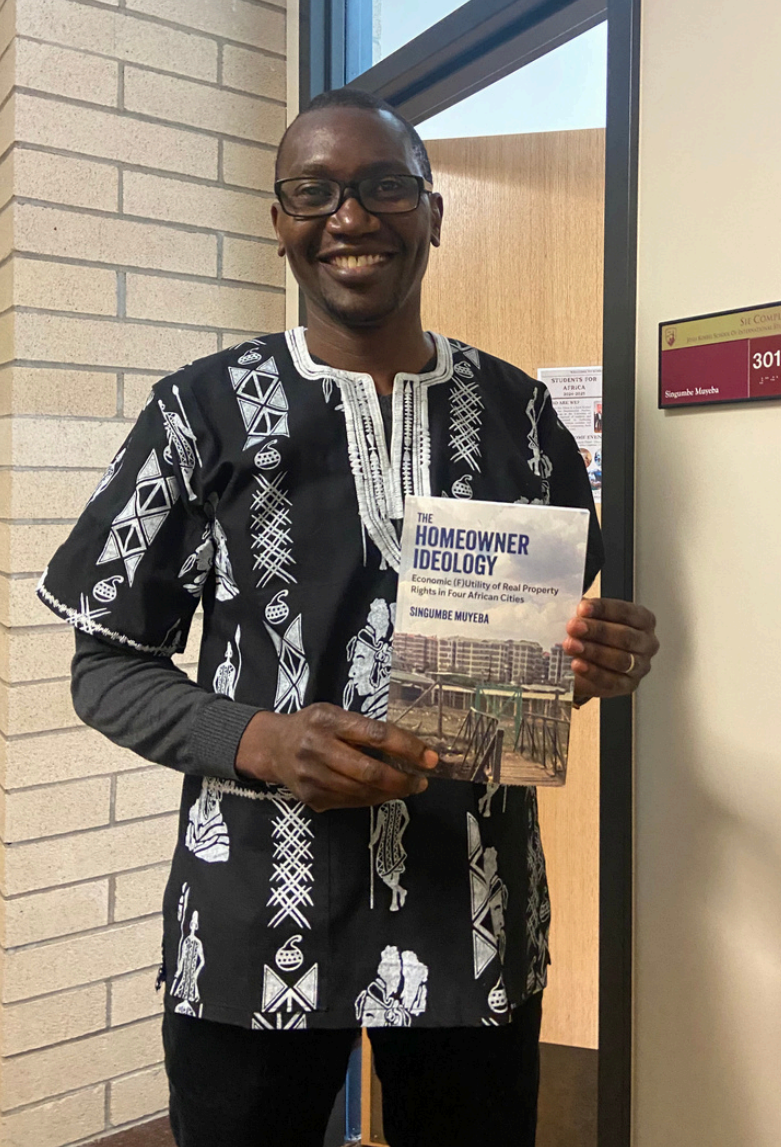
Mark Deets, The American University in Cairo, *A Country of Defiance: Mapping the Casamance in Senegal* (Ohio 2023) won the 2024 Outstanding First Book Prize from the Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD).



Laura DeLuca, has launched a purpose driven travel company called Discover with DeLuca which will form partnerships with local NGOs and businesses such as Maasai owned lodge Oldarpoi and Equator Prize winning Maasai run conservancy Nashulai. The inaugural trip to Kenya was in Summer 2024.

Casey Golomski, University of New Hampshire, following the passing of eminent Tanzanian medical anthropologist Joe L.P. Lugalla, the University of New Hampshire (UNH) and Boston University School of Public Health hosted a September 2024 symposium in his honor titled "Health for All: History and Humanity."

Casey Golomski, University of New Hampshire, was awarded a Wenner Gren Foundation Conference Grant with **Nosipho Mngomezulu**, Wits University, and **Joel Cabrita**, Stanford University, for a week-long mobile,



Alison Okuda, Worcester State University, "Black Power, Raw Soul, and Race in Ghana," published in *African Studies Review* in December 2023, won the Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD) Outstanding Article Prize for 2024.

Joan Ricart-Huguet, Loyola University Maryland, "Ukraine stops Russian gas transit to Europe" Interviewed by the BBC World Service Radio for the World Business Report on the economic consequences of West African countries expelling French troops, January 1, 2025.

Djimeli Raoul Simplicie, defended their dissertation, "Roman et construction d'une conscience historique en contexte postcolonial au Cameroun."

Marc Sommers, Boston University, *We the Young Fighters: Pop Culture, Terror, and War in Sierra Leone* (University of Georgia Press) was the #1 Amazon New Release (War & Peace category) and a 2024 Montaigne Medal Finalist.

Ashley Stewart, University of Port Harcourt, defended their dissertation, "Designing User-Centered Environmental Graphics for Wayfinding in Primary Health Centres in Rivers State."

place-based 2025 writing and documentary podcast workshop in Eswatini: "Engaging Regina Twala's Ethnography: A Workshop on Black Women's Scholarship, Multi-Genre Writing, and the History of Anthropology in Africa."

Emile Kablan, defended their dissertation, "La problématique de l'immigration dans la littérature et le cinéma africain : regards croisés de la romancière Fatou Diome et du cinéaste Mati Diop."

Juliana Makuchi Nfah-Abbenyi, North Carolina State University, was named Associate Dean of Faculty and Staff Development and Success in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at North Carolina State University.

Shadrack Nasong'o, Rhodes College, in February 2025, the American Library Association selected *The Palgrave Handbook of Kenyan History* (2023) as one of 14 Best Historical Materials published in 2023 and 2024.

Cheryl Toman, University of Alabama, was a recipient of a New York Public Library Schomburg Center for Black Culture Short-Term Fellowship.



WHY JOIN A

Coordinate

Organization?

ASA is proud to boast 13 Coordinate Organizations, which build and strengthen communities of scholars, students, and practitioners in specific areas of interest. Coordinate Organizations further the exchange of ideas by offering year-round events, conferences, and symposia, sponsor sessions at the ASA Annual Meeting, and host business meetings and receptions. In 2025, ASA will hold member events throughout the year co-hosted by Coordinate Organizations.

Learn more about ASA's Coordinate Organizations and become a member in MyASA.

ESN Peer Networks: Focused Fridays

Join the Emerging Scholars Network's Peer Network Writing Accountability Group! All Emerging Scholars are welcome.

**Fridays at 12:00 PM eastern
via Zoom**

Join the ESN and Sign-Up for Focused Fridays at
africanstudies.org/individualmembership/emerging-scholars/



Cover Photo: ASA Vice President Dr. Nwando Achebe sits with 2024 Hormuud Lecturer, Her Excellency H.E. Abena P.A. Busia at the December 2024 Annual Meeting held in Chicago, Illinois.



STATE OF THE ASSOCIATION

After the new year, the ASA Board of Directors voted on the action items listed below. The 2025 board members are:

Elizabeth Schmidt, *President*
Nwando Achebe, *Vice President*
Gretchen Bauer, *Past President*
J. Jarpa Dawuni, *Member*
Claudia Gastrow, *Member*
Jennifer Hart, *Member*
Rachel Jean-Baptiste, *Member*
Lisa Lindsay, *Member*
Timothy P. Longman, *Treasurer*
Jacqueline-Bethel Tchouta Mougoué, *Member*
Mucha Musemwa, *Member*
Anita Plummer, *Treasurer*
James Yékú, *Member*
Seulgie Lim, *Emerging Scholars Rep.*



2024-2025 Board Decisions

- The Board approved a Bylaws Referendum.
- The Board approved an expanded advocacy policy.
- The Board approved new session proposal types for the ASA Annual Meeting
- The Executive Committee approved co-signing the [AHA-OAH Statement on Executive Order "Ending Radical Indoctrination in K-12 Schooling"](#)
- The Executive Committee approved co-signing the [AHA-OAH Joint Statement on Federal Censorship of American History](#).
- The Executive Committee approved co-signing [MESA Letter with AAS to Columbia University Interim President and Board of Trustees on Academic Freedom Infringements](#)
- The Executive Committee approved new Coordinate Organization financial policies.

Tips for B1/B2 Visa Applicants



1. **Apply Early!** - Visa appointment fill quickly. If there are no visa appointments available, check nearby cities or countries. You can apply at any U.S. Embassy.



2. **Request a Letter of Invitation** - Due to the high volume of requests it can take up to a week to receive your letter. ASA only provides letters to **registered** participants of the Annual Meeting.



3. **Be Prepared!** - Be ready to discuss your travel dates, purpose of visit, and any supporting details. Find [tips for B1/B2 visas](#) on ASA's website.



4. **Keep us informed** - ASA cannot assist with visas outside of providing a letter of invitation. If your visa is rejected, please let us know at members@africanstudies.org