

African Studies Center Michigan State University

Weekly Bulletin

April 11, 2017

Spring #13

Welcome to the African Studies Center's Newsletter and list of upcoming events, speaker presentations, tea times, conferences, jobs and other exciting opportunities.

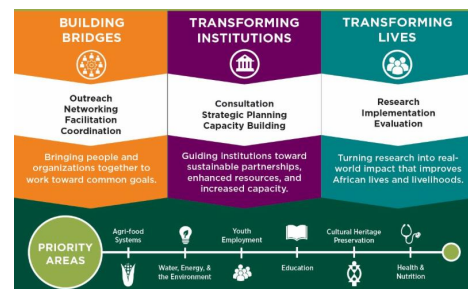
Please feel free to visit our website for more information:
<http://www.africa.isp.msu.edu>

Alliance for African Partnership

To learn more about the Alliance for African Partnership,
<http://www.aap.isp.msu.edu>

Eye On Africa Speaker Series

To learn more about Eye on Africa,
<http://africa.isp.msu.edu/programs/eye-africa/>



AFRICAN STUDIES CENTER PROGRAMS

Eye on Africa

Thursday, April 13, 2017
12:00-1:30pm- Room 201 International Center

"Arabic between the Anglophone and Francophone Spheres"
Eye on Africa with Camelia Suleiman, Department of Linguistics and Languages, Michigan State University.

Tuesday, April 18, 2017
11:00-12:30- Room 201 International Center

"Basin Consciousness: Africa and the Idea of the Indian Ocean." Eye on Africa with Jeremy Prestholdt, Professor of African and Global History, University of California, San Diego.



[For additional information or to view past episodes.](#)

African Tea Time- Open to Everyone
An opportunity to learn about and share first-hand knowledge of
the African continent
Learn, Share, Engage!

Thursdays-4:00-6:00pm
427 N. Shaw Lane, Room 303 International Center



April 13: Burkina Faso, Cote D'Ivoire & Guinea
(Bissau and Conakry) [room 201]

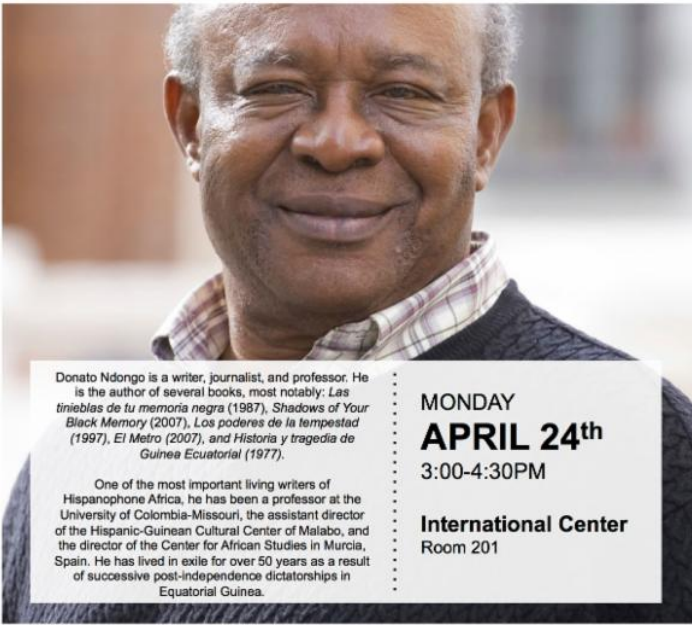
The full schedule can be found on our [website](#).

MSU ANNOUNCEMENTS

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Global Studies in the Arts and Humanities MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Literatura y Opresión: un diálogo con
Literature & Oppression: a conversation with

DONATO NDONGO-BIDYOGO



Donato Ndongo is a writer, journalist, and professor. He is the author of several books, most notably: *Las tinieblas de tu memoria negra* (1987), *Shadows of Your Black Memory* (2007), *Los poderes de la tempestad* (1997), *El Metro* (2007), and *Historia y tragedia de Guinea Ecuatorial* (1977).

One of the most important living writers of Hispanophone Africa, he has been a professor at the University of Columbia-Missouri, the assistant director of the Hispanic-Guinean Cultural Center of Malabo, and the director of the Center for African Studies in Murcia, Spain. He has lived in exile for over 50 years as a result of successive post-independence dictatorships in Equatorial Guinea.

MONDAY
APRIL 24th
3:00-4:30PM

International Center
Room 201

SPONSORED BY GLOBAL STUDIES IN THE ARTS & HUMANITIES
Supported by: African American & African Studies, African Studies Center, American Indian & Indigenous Studies, Asian Studies Center, College of Arts & Letters, Department of English, Department of History, James Madison College, Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies, Department of Linguistics and Languages, Department of Romance and Classical Studies, The Faculty Excellence Advocate of the College of Social Science, and The Timnick Chair.

Questions? Contact: Prof. Yomaira Figueroa yomara@msu.edu globalstudies.msu.edu

Greater Lansing United Nations Association's (GL-UNA) Earth Day "The Relationship of Human Migration to Climate Change"

MSU Faculty Panel: Stephen Gasteyer, Jennifer Olson, Daniel Ahlquist, Sophia Koufopoulos, Aaron Ponce

Climate change is already having an effect on human habitats causing social disruption and migration. As the celebration of Earth Day approaches, learn about this aspect of the climate change puzzle. Panelists will present some of the facts around this challenging problem from the United Nations and other sources. Movements of refugees and migrants also have impacts on the environments of the places they pass through and settle in. A panel of experts will share their experience gleaned from studies in the Middle East, Thailand, the Greek Isles, and Africa.

Friday Forum on Neoliberalism & Public Higher Education: "U.S. Militarism and Higher Education: Following the Money and the GWOT"

Terry Link, Chair, Peace Education Center and David Wiley, Professor Emeritus, Sociology/African Studies

Friday, April 21, 2017, 10:30 am, Kellogg Center - Rm 102

A discussion of militarism in the U.S. federal budget and its impact on higher education in a time of the "Global War on Terror." How do weapons unwanted by the Department of Defense in addition to the waste, fraud, neoliberal intoxication, and an increasing U.S. global footprint bring us more security? Is higher education helping or hindering the budgetary drift? What are the implications of the federal budget changes being proposed by the Trump Administration and the Congress for faculty and students at MSU.

"Ahmed Kathrada (1929-2017): A Tribute to a South African Activist for Non-Racialism and Democracy"

Thursday, April 27, 2017, 12 noon, (South Africa Freedom Day), Third Floor International Center

A panel of MSU faculty and South Africans will pay tribute to Ahmed Kathrada, South Africa freedom fighter and long-time partner of Nelson Mandela in Robben Island Prison and in the ANC government after elections in 1994. Kathrada (deceased March 28, 2017) published his *Letters from Prison* with MSU Press and was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by MSU for his lifetime of struggle for freedom, democracy, and non-racialism in South Africa and abroad. He has hosted many MSU faculty and students and even President Obama in tours of the Robben Island Prison near Cape Town. This tribute to Kathrada is being offered on South Africa Freedom Day, celebrated each year on 27th April, marking the anniversary of the day in 1994 when the country held its first ever all-race, democratic election, ending decades of sanctioned racial oppression under the apartheid system.

Graduate seminar- Global Justice and Peace Building (Fall 2017)

PHL 850 - Seminar Social and Political Philosophy

Mon. 7:00-9:50 p.m.

Instructor: Professor Steve Esquith

Email: esquith@msu.edu

While this course is offered in the Philosophy Department, it is designed as part of the inter-disciplinary ethics and development program to be of value to students in other programs.

This seminar will address major theoretical contributions to our understanding of democracy, global justice, and peace building. We will examine different concepts of transitional justice, citizenship, and responsibility in the context of contemporary issues such as migration, inequality, violence, and peace building. One important distinction that will run through the seminar is the difference between ethical theory and political theory. Some of the theorists to be discussed are Pablo DeGrieff, Naomi Roht-Arriaza, Carla Ramirez-Barat, Sheldon Wolin, Raymond Guess, Wendy Brown, Antonio Y. Vazquez-Arroyo, and Thomas Nail. In addition to graduate students in the Department of Philosophy, students from other graduate programs with an interest in global justice and peace building and the interdisciplinary program in Ethics and Development are encouraged to consult the instructor to determine whether they have appropriate preparation to enroll in the course.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



THE AFRICA-AMERICA INSTITUTE
Educating People | Connecting Worlds

State of Education in Africa (SOA) - 2017 PitchFest Competition

May 3rd and 4th, 2017, Nairobi, Kenya

Do you have an innovative and creative idea that uses technology to solve some of Africa's most challenging needs across the field of education?

The 2017 State of Education in Africa Conference will stage a competition between newly formed education-technology companies supporting African Education. PitchFest finalists will have the opportunity to make short pitches of their idea to conference attendees, including business, government and non-profit leaders from around the globe.

To support next stage development for their business

First prize winners will receive USD 2500

Second place will receive USD 1500

Third place will receive USD 1000

Applications will close April 19th. Finalists notified on April 24th.

Please visit www.soeafrica.org/pitchfest/ for more information or contact Jourden Williams at jwilliams@aaionline.org or +1 (646) 645 7286.

[Apply Here!](#)



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI



Peace and Security Fellowship for African Women & Peace and Security Fellowship for African Scholars

[Call for Applications](#)

The ALC is pleased to announce a call for applications for the Peace and Security Fellowship for African Women for 2017/2018. The Peace and Security Fellowship Programme for African Women is designed to expose professional African women at the early stages of their careers to the complexities of conflict, security and development. The Fellowships bring together a cohort of African women to undertake a carefully designed training programme in conflict, security and development. This Fellowship is an intellectual and financial award to those who are able to portray convincing demonstrable or potential capacity to bring about intellectual, policy or other change in their field. The Fellowship is a postgraduate non-degree programme, and does not lead to an academic qualification.

The OHCHR Annual Fellowship Programme for people of African descent.

The Fellowship this year will take place from 13 November - 1 December 2017. Deadline for application is 31 May 2017.

We encourage you to visit :

- [OHCHR Page Launching the Call for Applications](#)
- [Facebook Page on the Fellowship](#)
- [Detailed application process](#)
- [A video on the experiences of the 2016 cohort](#)
- [The International Decade for people of African descent Website](#)

CONFERENCES & PUBLISHING

50 Years After: History, Memory and Legacy of the Nigeria-Biafra War

Dominican University, River Forest, Illinois
September 1-2, 2017

Since the passage of the Genocide Convention, the world has seen and witnessed several genocides in the last sixty years. Some of the significant genocides that have occurred in Africa in recent times include Igbo/Biafra, Rwandan and Darfur genocides. These genocides, as was the case of the Armenian, Kosovan genocides, all reflect the historical conflagration of human bestiality, age old prejudices and biases that resonate with Nazi trivialization of Jewish personhood - in shape, though not in magnitude. However, unlike the Jews, Armenians, Rwandan and Darfur genocides, the Igbo genocide has been neglected by scholars, activists, and community and national leaders.

On the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the Nigeria- Biafra war (1967-1970), we invite scholars, community activists and human rights practitioners to an International Conference to be held at Dominican University, Chicago, to address the following issues: history and memory of the war; the status of academic research on the Igbo genocide; impact of the war on children; an integrated international human rights response; international criminal law perspective; and role of civil society, community and international organizations.

The conference is jointly coordinated by [Professor Nkuzi Nnam](#), Director, Director Black World Studies, Dominican University, Chicago and Professor [Chima Korieh](#), Director, Biafra War Oral History Project.

The conference committee will be pleased to welcome 300-word abstract no later than June 10, 2017. Please include a 50 word biographical data and as well as the author's name, address, telephone number, email address, and institutional affiliation. A full version of the paper to be presented should be submitted by August 20, 2017.

For additional information or to email your abstract, please contact [Chima Korieh](#).



Since its origins in decolonization and the Cold War, African studies has consistently had to reassert its relevance to university curricular trends and global historical forces. For many teaching African studies courses, consistent pedagogical goals have focused on deconstructing popular discourse about the world's second largest continent, and centering African voices and experiences as vital to understanding global issues. These goals are unfinished and on-going, but how is African studies evolving to meet the demands of the 21st century classroom? What are the new opportunities and challenges to promoting the study of Africa within the liberal arts?

Africa Network's key mission is to promote the study of Africa within the liberal arts curriculum. This year's conference theme "Africa in the 21st century classroom" is a continuation of an on-going focus of the organization and designed to bring together an interdisciplinary group of teachers/scholars to share best practices in a collaborative environment. Building on our 2016 conference theme "The State of African Studies," our 2017 conference will offer a chance to continue the debate within the changing landscape of higher education.

Publication Opportunities Selected papers from the conference will be invited to submit to a new online, open source publication called "Teaching Africa" sponsored by Africa Network and set to launch in 2017.

Submissions and Deadlines: Please submit an individual abstract or panel proposal to [Matt Carotenuto](mailto:Matt.Carotenuto) by May 1st, 2017 with the subject line "Africa Network Conference."

Contact

africa@campusad.msu.edu

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(students, faculty, alumni)
on our website and across
our social media platforms.
Please keep us informed at
mocktara@msu.edu.*