

African Studies Center Michigan State University

Weekly Bulletin

March 28, 2017

Spring #11

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

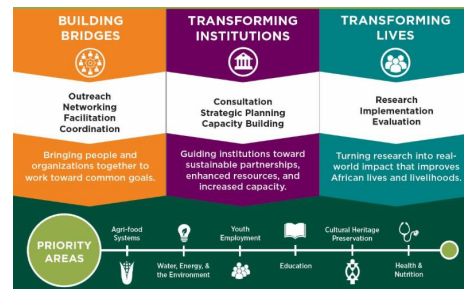
Please feel free to visit our website for more information:
<http://www.africa.isp.msu.edu>

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/>

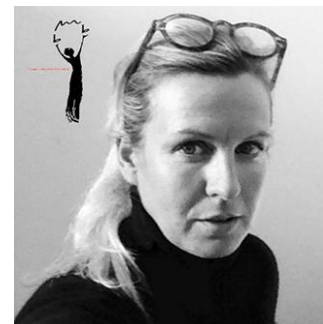


AFRICAN STUDIES CENTER PROGRAMS

Eye on Africa

Tuesday, March 28, 2017 **TODAY**
12:00- 1:30pm- Room 255 Old Horticulture Bldg

"You Could Sing Your Way Out of Pain and Survive: Music, Resistance and Race Relations in Mandela's Robben Island Prison during the Anti- Apartheid Struggle." Eye on Africa with Janie Cole, Visiting Professor, University of Cape Town, Musicologist and Oral Historian.



Thursday, April 6, 2017
12:00- 1:30pm- Room 201 International Center

"Gender, Poverty, and Diabetes Self-Management in Ghana." Eye on Africa with Masako Fujita and Sabrina Perlman, Department of Anthropology, Michigan State University.

[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



March 30: Cameroon, the Congos and Tunisia

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

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

MSU ANNOUNCEMENTS

Addressing inequalities, mobility, and dislocation: Insights from international and domestic research and practice

June 12 - June 13, 2017

Michigan State University

East Lansing, Michigan

Proposal submission closes April 1

Michigan State University's College of Education is announcing a conference on "Addressing inequalities, mobility and dislocation: Insights from international and domestic research and practice" to be held in East Lansing, Michigan, June 12-13. This conference will bring together researchers and practitioners from Michigan, across the continent, and around the world, working across a variety of disciplinary and professional perspectives. Together, we will explore how to work toward educational contexts that can help individuals, families, and communities thrive in the midst of inequity due to mobility, displacement, and other changes to education on local, national, and transnational scales.

In the context of the current global moment of social, economic, political and cultural transformation and dislocation, inequalities are growing. Exploring ways to understand and address them is even more urgently needed. This conference creates an opportunity for dialogue among US and international scholars, practitioners, and graduate students working on inequality in a range of contexts, drawing on different disciplinary perspectives and approaches. Our goal is to strengthen our insights and ability to create or support educational contexts (from early childhood through higher education) that help students, families and communities thrive in the midst of such turbulent and uncertain times.

We welcome your paper proposals and participation. Papers can focus on any level of education (early childhood through higher education/adult), and can address issues pertaining to local, national, or transnational contexts. See the [website](#) for more information about the conference, registration, and paper proposal.

“Migrations of Islam”

Movie Screening and Discussion with the creators

a documentary film on Muslim American voices in the 21st century
by Salah D. Hassan and Swarnavel Pillai
(56 minutes)

Wednesday March 29
6:30 - 8:30 pm
South Kedzie, Room S107

From October 2011 to May 2012, a series of public performances were held in Michigan to explore the different ways that Muslims in the U.S. have negotiated the relationship between their faith and society. The result was an extended dialog with Muslim-Americans on a range of issues, from the wearing of a hijab to the making of hip-hop music. These young Muslim-Americans challenge Islamophobia and pose questions to Muslim communities. “Migrations of Islam” is a documentary film that includes clips from the public performances and interviews with students, artists and experts to present the different ways that young Muslims in the United States have positioned themselves against the extremes of anti-Muslim rhetoric and conservative religious traditions, showing the different ways that contemporary forms of Islam are finding expression in the words, images, and actions of Americans.

Michigan State University
College of Natural Science
Council on Diversity and Community
Muslim Studies Program

Frugal Innovation Field Practicum

Lilongwe, Malawi

Global Center for Food Systems Innovations (GCFSI) brings MSU students an interdisciplinary experiential learning opportunity in community engagement, inter-institutional collaboration, and urban food systems.

Students will learn...

- 1 Deeper understanding of urban food environments in urban Africa.
- 2 Critical skills in community engagement, interdisciplinary problem-solving and collaboration.
- 3 How to co-produce appropriate innovations to critical food system problems as they are identified by those working in food-based livelihoods.

GCFSI is looking for students who...

- 1 Offer a unique perspective in the areas of business, marketing, urban planning, agriculture, food systems, community, engagement, and sustainability.
- 2 Show commitment to their chosen field but are well-rounded in their pursuits.
- 3 Have a demonstrated commitment to the process of collaboration, inclusion and information exchange.

APPLY NOW

Visit goo.gl/HmRMZQ to start your application.

Applications should be submitted by Sunday, April 9, 2017. Interviews of suitable candidates will be held the final week of April and the first week of May. The practicum will take place from June 25 - August 24.



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Global Center for
Food Systems Innovation

gcfsi.msu.edu

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

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](#)

2017 MSP Graduate Student Essay Award (\$500)

This award recognizes an outstanding research paper by a current MSU graduate student whose studies focus on Muslims in any contexts and/or Muslim-majority communities/societies.

Published or unpublished papers must have been written between March 2016 and the deadline, 31 March 2017.

Please submit papers by email attachment (15-25 pages with complete works cited) to Mohammad Khalil (khalilm@msu.edu) and Mary Firdaws (firdaws2@msu.edu).

Submission Deadline: March 31, 2017.

CONFERENCES & PUBLISHING



**3rd International Conference of the Dakar Institute of African Studies
DIAS**

"Valorizing African Cultural Heritage: Colonial Fantasies/Decolonial Futures"

**July 7-8, 2017
Dakar, Senegal**

Most African countries have recently celebrated 50 years of independence. Yet, despite the major gains that have been witnessed in almost every segment of our societies, one can clearly argue that the specter of colonization still permeates all levels of the social, cultural, and political frameworks of African politics. It is therefore necessary to take into consideration the pervasiveness of coloniality in almost every aspect of life as we think of the possibility of a truly decolonial era. It is, in this vein, that The Dakar Institute of African Studies invites scholars, activists, and practitioners to a two day forum, to think of the possibilities to evaluate the colonial constitutions and inflections of global order and their manifestations in the development of policies, the formation of psychologies, and the occupation of minds in the African context.

The organizers of the International Symposium on "**Valorizing African Cultural Heritage: Colonial Fantasies/Decolonial Futures**," convened by The Dakar Institute in collaboration with Université Cheikh Anta Diop (UCAD), and the West African Research Center (WARC) welcome papers, presentations, and performances that revisit the actual condition of Africa, Africans, and African knowledge production from a decolonial perspective. We are particularly interested in papers and performances that address possible radical transformation in African knowledge-making and pedagogies through theoretical and/or practical inquiries from any angle in the humanities and the social sciences. Papers that tackle particular issues in African Studies from a multidisciplinary, an interdisciplinary, or a transdisciplinary perspective, or from the particular disciplines of education, literature, sociology, history, philosophy, dance, music, linguistics, law, religion, anthropology, economics, political science, and psychology, etc., are welcome.

Submit proposals (no more than 250 words) that explore or challenge any perspective on the symposium's major theme.



The deadline for abstracts is April 1, 2017. Please send your title, abstract, and a short bio with the subject "conference2017" to: conference@thedakarinstitute.com.



"Africa in the 21st century classroom"
September 29th-October 1st
St. Olaf College, Northfield Minnesota

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

Stay Connected



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