

African Studies Center Michigan State University

Weekly Bulletin

April 25, 2017

Spring #15

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

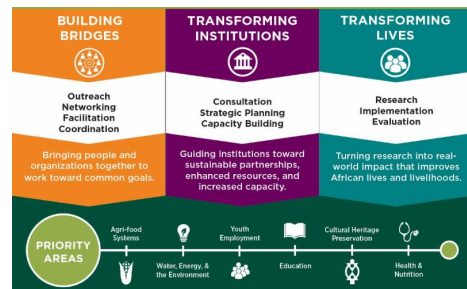
Please feel free to visit our website for more information:
<http://www.africa.isp.msu.edu>

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/>



MSU ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please join us in Remembering

Ahmed Kathrada

Thursday April 27, 2017



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

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.

12:00-1:30PM
Room 303, International Center
Light refreshments provided

AUTHORITARIAN NATIONALISM AND POLITICS IN ZIMBABWE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Alois S. Mlambo, University of Pretoria, South Africa

Special History Department/African Studies Seminar

May 3 12 noon. History Department, Old Horticulture Room 255

Recent commentators on Zimbabwe's crisis since the turn of the century have drawn attention to the rise of an intolerant, selective and racialized authoritarian nationalism that is becoming increasingly parochial and exclusive. Underpinned by what Terence Ranger referred to as 'patriotic history', this latest version of Zimbabwean nationalism has proved to be highly divisive by categorising Zimbabweans as either 'patriots' or 'sell-outs' and puppets of the West, or as 'sons of the soil' versus 'aliens'. Those labelled sell-outs, puppets or aliens are then regarded as deserving the ill-treatment, political harassment and human rights abuses they are subjected to by state institutions and ruling party supporters, as the new nationalism seeks to suppress any political dissent. The lecture examines the nature of Zimbabwe's new nationalism and locates its birth in the political contestation at the turn of the century.

Two Members of MSU Africanist Community Awarded West African Research Association (WARA) Fellowships

Emily Riley, Visiting Associate Professor in the Department of Anthropology, and Russell Stevenson, Ph.D.

Dr. Riley's fellowship will support her continuing project on female politicians and the gender equality movement in Senegal. Over the summer months, she will document the campaigns of several female candidates for parliamentary elections and members of advocacy groups who have fought for gender equality in politics in order to understand how women operate in political spaces and the tactics they use to gain popularity and power.

Stevenson's project examines Mormonism as a manifestation of corporate (post)colonial spirituality in Nigeria. In August, he will be conducting interviews with Igbo Mormons in Owerri, Aba, and Nsukka.



Men in the Arena

Wednesday, April 26th, 6:30pm

Wonders Hall C100 Kiva

The Department of History and the African Studies Center are pleased to host a free screening of the new film "Men in the Arena" on Wednesday, April 26th, at 6:30pm in Erickson Hall 103.

The film tracks the stories of two young Somali men chasing their dreams of soccer stardom in the toughest of circumstances. It's a survival story, a human rights story, and a rare sports journey principally shot and produced in Kenya, Somalia, and the United States.

The event will include a Q&A session with the film's director, J. R. Biersmith.

Summer Course Announcement

"African History, Culture, and Society"

ISS 330A, Africa Soc Sci Perspct (I) ONLINE- First summer session

Prof. Nwando Achebe

"African History, Culture, and Society" is a general survey of the history, culture, and society of Africa. The course presupposes no background in African History, therefore during each session the instructor will offer a mini lecture and overview that will provide a historical narrative of a given African theme. The quest for knowledge will commence with an overview of African kingdoms and small scale societies. The course will then touch on slavery, its abolition, the great scramble, and partition of Africa, colonialism in Africa, nationalism, and end with an exploration of some neocolonial realities in the new independent African states.

For additional information, please contact [Prof. Nwando Achebe](#).



59th Annual Convention Call for Proposals

April 4th - 7th, 2018, San Francisco, California
Submission Deadline: June 1st, 2017

Many approaches to understanding international politics begin with the observation that international politics operates in a condition of anarchy, and that this creates fundamentally different interactions than those we witness in domestic politics. Yet, despite the lack of a formal government, the international system operates through a vast web of rules-- formal and informal, explicit and implicit. While powerful actors may have disproportionate influence in the creation, maintenance, and contestation of rules, explicit and implicit rules also influence notions of power and serve as sources of power. There is an endogenous, mutually constitutive, relationship between power and rules.

Our 2018 conference theme seeks to understand the relative and relational influence of power and rules in international politics. While the interaction between power and rules characterizes the subject we study, it also characterizes the international studies profession. We invite proposals that address and problematize power structures, rules, and norms in our discipline, our universities, and our professional associations as well as in international interactions.

[Submit a Proposal](#)

Call for Publication: "Africa and the World: The Continent in Global History"

Contributors are invited for a new book project titled, "Africa and the World: The Continent in Global History" (3 volumes), commissioned by ABC-CLIO. Editor, Saheed Aderinto. This three-volume book would have around 900,000 words and 500 alphabetically arranged entries of 1000 to 2500 words each. Topics to be covered include but not limited to the slave trade, exploration, colonization, African contributions to world civilization, global science, art, and culture, and other subjects on Africa's relationship with the rest of the world. If you are interested in contributing to this project, send your CV to [Saheed Aderinto](#).



Call for participants PhD Workshop

For the first time, the International Metropolis Conference in collaboration with the City of The Hague and the Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies (IMES) at the University of Amsterdam will offer a special program for PhD students. The program will start on Sunday evening, September 17, 2017 and will adjourn just before the opening of the Conference on Monday afternoon, September 18. The aim is to bring PhD students together to support the development of their international networks and to offer them a platform to discuss, directly with policy officials and civil society organizations, the value of their research for policy. There will be space for 25 students who will be selected on a first come, first served basis, subject to them meeting criteria detailed on the

Those who are accepted will be offered dinner on Sunday evening, lunch on Monday, a waiver for the registration fee for the International Metropolis Conference (September 18-22, 2017), and accommodation free of charge from Sunday September 17 until Friday September 22.

Students who wish to sign up should send an email with information about i) their affiliation, ii) the title and topic of their PhD project, iii) details about their policy related activities, iv) a CV, and v) two letters of recommendation from their supervisors to phdmetropolis@gmail.com.

[Submit an application.](#)

CFP: AFRICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION OF AFRICA (ASAA)

2nd Biennial Conference: African Studies and Global Politics

The University of Ghana, Legon

October 12-14, 2017

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

DEADLINE: May 31st 2017

The African Studies Association of Africa (ASAA) was established in 2013 during the climax of the 50th anniversary celebrations of the Institute of African Studies at the University of Ghana, Legon, to promote Africa's own specific contributions to the advancement of knowledge about the peoples and cultures of Africa and the Diaspora. The ASAA is currently the only multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary professional association on the continent dedicated to the study of Africa from an Africanist perspective, what Kwame Nkrumah, the first president of Ghana, referred to as studying our societies and experiences in an African-centred way.

[Submit an abstract.](#)

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chief of Party (COP) Ethiopia, East Africa

Project Size: This is a \$5-10 million USAID MELA Project

Start Date and Duration of Assignment: As Soon As Possible. This is a funded project, with duration from June, 2017 through March, 2022.

Responsibilities/Minimum Requirements:* This position requires an experienced individual with:

- * Graduate degree or higher in management, public health, international development, social science, M&E, or a related field;
- * At least twelve (12) years of international development experience is required;
- * At least twelve (12) years of work experience in either of the following fields/areas: public health, research design and implementation, M&E, and/or project design. Note: a mix of the above experience areas highly preferred;
- * Demonstrated statistical expertise in the design and implementation of multivariable studies;
- * At least ten (10) years of supervisory and organizational management experience in a multi-cultural setting, including local capacity strengthening approaches;
- * Demonstrated experience successfully managing multi-faceted activities of similar size and scope (greater than USD \$5 million);
- * Excellent demonstrated written and communication skills and experience;
- * Excellent demonstrated ability to effectively interact with local professionals, international donors, host government counterparts, and other implementing partners,
- * Experience working in Africa highly desirable.

HOW TO APPLY: Please send requested documents to linda.aines@internationalink.net and add "Chief of Party (COP), East Africa" in the subject line. Documents needed: 1) CV in chronological format, that clearly show you match Responsibilities/Requirements: and Experience; 2) a list of at least three professional referees including name, contact information, and statement of relationship to the referee.

Contact

africa@campusad.msu.edu

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our social media platforms.
Please keep us informed at
mocktara@msu.edu.*