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

Eye On Africa Speaker Series
To learn more about Eye on Africa, http://www.africa.isp.msu.edu

February 4, 2016
12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Room 201 International Center

"African Hip Hop, Youth, and Politics of Change in an Era of Rapid Globalization" Eye on Africa with Mwenda Ntarangwi, Vice President for Advancement & Communications, Theological Book Network (Grand Rapids, MI).

and

Africa's Youth Panel discussion
"Meeting Global Challenges of the Future"
4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Room 303 International Center
(427 N Shaw Ln, East Lansing, MI 48824)

Youth are the fastest growing demographic group in Africa. They are leading the way in innovations in culture and technology. However, the African youth are facing the world's complex challenges related to health, food, environment and inclusion, in democratic processes. Please join our faculty and student experts for a lively multi-disciplinary forum about youth in Africa, today and tomorrow.
Panelists:
Professor Mwenda Ntarangwi - Vice President for Advancement & Communications, Theological Book Network, Grand Rapids, MI
Lorraine Weatherspoon - Professor, Food Science and Human Nutrition, MSU
Susan Wyche - Assistant Professor, Dept. of Media & Information, MSU
Nathalie Me-Nesope - Assistant Professor, Agriculture, Food & Resource Economics, MSU
Pauline Wambua - Graduate Student, Public Policy, MSU

Special Book Signing event and Eye on Africa

February 11, 2016
12:00 - 1:30 p.m.
Room 303 International Center
(please note room change)

"A View from Dadaab"

Everybody Reads Bookstore will be available for those who wish to purchase a signed copy of his book.

Watch Past Episodes
http://eyeonafrica.matrix.msu.edu/

African Tea Times - Open to Everyone
An opportunity to learn and share about first-hand experiences on the African Continent
Learn, Share, Engage!
(427 N Shaw Lane, Room 303 International Center, East Lansing, MI)

February 11, 2016
4:00 - 6:00 p.m. - Room 303 International Center
UPCOMING SPEAKERS AT MSU

February 16, 2016
3:00 - 4:30 p.m. Room 303 International Center

“The Great Surge: The Ascent of the Developing World” with acclaimed scholar and author, Steven Radelet, Director, Global Human Development Program (Georgetown University, Non-Resident Senior Fellow, Brookings Institute).

Learn more at http://isp.msu.edu/greatsurge
This event is sponsored by International Studies and Programs, James Madison College and the College of Social Science at MSU.

MSU ANNOUNCEMENTS

Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship

Intensive African Language Summer 2016 and Academic Year 2016-17

Application Deadline:
February 5, 2016

The African Studies Center invites applicants for the FLAS fellowship for the study of African Languages:
- FLAS Fellowships come with a tuition award and a stipend
- Both graduate and undergraduate students may apply
- Fellowships are awarded to qualified students in programs that combine the study of African languages with advanced training and research in an African focused academic or professional area
- The FLAS fellowship is funded by the U.S. Department of Education Title VI program for the study of African languages and African area studies

For additional information, visit: http://africa.isp.msu.edu/flas/ or email Dr. Ann Biersteker at bierstek@msu.edu; or call (517) 353-1700.
Announcing the 9th Annual MSU Africanist Graduate Student Research Conference at Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan
March 18-19, 2016

Call for Papers
Submission deadline: February 15, 2016

The 9th Annual Africanist Graduate Student Research Conference at Michigan State University is soliciting submissions on innovative approaches to the study of Africa and the African Diaspora. The conference will be held at Michigan State University on 18-19 March 2016.

This conference seeks to bring together graduate scholars who study Africa at all stages. In past years the conference has generated intellectually stimulating exchanges across disciplinary lines. The conference aims to generate dialogue and debate about the past, present, and future direction of Africanist scholarship.

As an interdisciplinary conference interested in promoting exchanges and connections across departments and fields, proposals based in any disciplinary and methodological framework, both quantitative and qualitative are invited. Submission of full panels, are particularly encouraged. Examples of potentially successful submissions are those based on dissertation proposals, masters' theses, dissertation chapters, and papers for potential future article publication. Possible Panel Topics Include - Environmental Policies, Histories, & Sciences - Health, epidemiology, & medical humanities - Labor & Economics - Land-use & urban and rural space - Language & Linguistics - Literature & African Intellectuals - Migration, urbanization, & xenophobia - Nationalism & Decolonization - Political structures & state formation - Popular culture & the media - Religion & Philosophy - Sport & Leisure - Women & Gender.

Submission Information and Guidelines:
The deadline for submission of proposals is February 15, 2016. Proposals are being accepted on a rolling basis, and early submissions are encouraged. Send all submissions to msuafricanistconference@gmail.com. Final papers will be due to the conference organizers by March 8, 2016 (approximately 10 double-spaced pages—equivalent of 15 minutes). For individual submissions, please send an abstract of no more than 250 words and a 1 page CV. Include the paper's title, your name and school affiliation, and a list of 3-5 keywords which you feel categorize your research. For panel submissions, please send a single abstract of no more than 500 words, relaying the connections between papers and the individual description of each paper. Send a 1 page CV for each presenter. Include the panel's name, the names and school affiliations of all presenters, and paper titles of all presentations.

MSU Study Abroad and Internship in South Africa

Dates: June 8-12, 2016 in U.S. (online course)
June 12 - July 30, 2016 (in South Africa)

Spend your summer studying and interning in South Africa this summer with Michigan State University's study abroad program in Art, Cultural Heritage, and Museums. Apply
for this innovative program that combines field-based coursework in arts, cultural studies, and museum studies with a one-month internship in a South African museum. Undergraduate and graduate students interested in museums, arts, and cultural heritage work are eligible to apply. For cost and complete details, visit: https://msusouthafricastudyabroad.wordpress.com/

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Dakar Institute Summer Study Abroad Program
Dakar, Senegal

Deadlines: February 1, 2016 - Session I (May 12 - June 16, 2016) 
February 15, 2016 - Session II (June 23 - July 28, 2016)

The Dakar Institute Summer Study Abroad program in Dakar, Senegal is open to all students attending accredited American institutions and who are interested in issues pertaining to Africa. It is of particular interest to French, English, Religion, Philosophy, Education, and African Studies majors. The Francophone Studies program offers classes in French while the African Studies program is in English. All students participating in the study abroad will live with a Senegalese family and study in classes with Senegalese university students. The Dakar Institute also offers exciting opportunities in hands-on learning through their Internship Program.

For complete details, visit: http://www.thedakarinstitute.com/

Internships & Study Abroad in Africa (Kenya & Uganda)
Sponsored by Northwestern University

Deadlines: February 10, 2016 (Fall 2016) 
March 1, 2016 - (Summer, accepted on a rolling basis until March 1, 2016)

Northwestern University, home of the Global Engagement Studies Institute (GESI) is offering a study abroad opportunity for undergraduates interested in contributing to international and community development in Africa this summer or fall, while living with a home-stay family. GESI is a unique, credit-bearing program that combines service-learning, study abroad, cultural immersion, and invaluable international work experience at dynamic, community-based organizations. GESI sites offer incredible opportunities for students interested in public health, preserving the environment, microfinance, human rights, education, and more.

If you are passionate about global change, committed to learning by doing, and ready to engage in hands-on global development:

The Global Engagement Studies Institute (GESI) at Northwestern University will equip you to:
* Work directly with local communities and community organizations in Kenya or Uganda
* Earn 2 or 4 Northwestern course credits (summer or fall, respectively - equivalent to approximately 6 or 12 semester hours)
* Live with a host family and immerse yourself in another culture for 8 or 10 weeks
* Work in teams of undergraduates to contribute to development work in the areas of environmental sustainability, microfinance, education, social enterprise, global health, and more

If you are interested in living and working in Africa and building meaningful relationships with local people, listed below are two sites to consider:

* **Kenya (Summer or Fall)**
  - In 2015 a GESI project paired students with a local healthcare clinic. The clinic was working with community members to better the soil in the community, which was acidic and poor due to long-term use of chemical fertilizer. After researching sustainable farming practices, the GESI interns collaborated with a group of HIV-positive people who were affiliated with the clinic to develop a compost manual and purchase goats, whose manure was used as a method for returning nutrients to the soil.

* **Uganda (Summer)**
  - In 2014 GESI interns worked with a youth association to kick start a chicken farm in order to generate a sustainable source of income for the group, while also offering their young members the opportunity to gain marketable skills. Chicks are relatively inexpensive to procure and maintain, and full grown chickens sell for a significant profit. With a portion of the profits, the association began a savings education program for area youth, and association members are now able to apply for microloans to open their own businesses.

For full details, visit: [http://gesi.northwestern.edu/](http://gesi.northwestern.edu/). If you have questions or want to speak to a member of the GESI staff, e-mail: gesi@northwestern.edu or call: 847.467.5759.

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**CONFERENCES**

### 9th International Conference on African Development 2016

**Call for Papers**

**Deadline:** March 1, 2016

The Center of African Development Policy Research (CADPR) at Western Michigan University in collaboration with Addis Ababa University, Adama Science and Technology University, Addis Ababa Science and Technology University, and Arsi University in Assela, Arsi, Ethiopia announce a call for research papers on the theme:

**The Challenges of Good Governance and Leadership for Sustainable Development in African States**

**Dates:** June 03 - 05, 2016

**Places:** AAU College of Business and Economics, Addis Ababa Science and Technology University, Adama Science and Technology University, and Arsi University in Assela, Ethiopia.

Please submit your 200-300 word abstract via the website: [http://scholarworks.wmich.edu/africancenter_icad/](http://scholarworks.wmich.edu/africancenter_icad/) by March 1, 2016. All submissions should include the title of the paper, the abstract, and the author's name, institutional affiliation, and contact email and address. Final abstracts and papers must be submitted via the same website listed above by April 1, 2016. In the event you are unable to submit your abstract/paper by uploading it to the conference website, please send them via email to:cadpr-icad@wmich.edu.

To access past conference papers see the International Conferences on African Development Archives at: [http://scholarworks.wmich.edu/africancenter_icad_archive/](http://scholarworks.wmich.edu/africancenter_icad_archive/). Selected papers will be reviewed for publication in CADPR-sponsored International Journal of African Development at: [http://scholarworks.wmich.edu/ijad/](http://scholarworks.wmich.edu/ijad/).
For more details on the background of the conference and suggested paper topics visit: [http://scholarworks.wmich.edu/africancenter_icad/scope.html](http://scholarworks.wmich.edu/africancenter_icad/scope.html).

**Keynote speakers already scheduled:**

- Ingida Asfaw, MD, Professor of Surgery, Wayne State University, Founding President of the Ethiopian North American Health Professionals Association
- Senait Fisseha, MD, JD, Professor, Obstetrics & Gynecology and Director of International Programs at Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
- John Ishyama, PhD, Distinguished Research Professor of Political Science, University of North Texas and Editor in Chief of American Review
- Mulu Solomon, MBA, President of the Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce and Sectoral Association, Vice President of the Pan-African Chamber of Commerce and Industries

For more information please contact Dr. Sisay Asefa, CADPR director: sisay.asefa@wmich.edu.

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**African Feminist Initiative - Penn State University**

**Call for Papers**

**Deadline: June 1, 2016**

The African Feminist Initiative (AFI) at Penn State University will host a small conference on current debates in African feminist thought from September 23 to 24, 2016 at the University Park campus. This will be the first in a series of conferences and workshops at which scholars and graduate students interested in the burgeoning field of African feminist studies can present their work. Scholarly and artistic presentations that highlight state of the art feminist theory, activism, and practice on the continent and beyond are welcomed. Please send abstracts consisting of 250 words and a list of works cited, and brief CV or bio, to gxb26@psu.edu and acdecker@psu.edu by June 1st, 2016.

The African Feminist Initiative was established in April 2015 as an intellectual hub for African feminist research and teaching in North America. In addition to sponsoring scholarly and creative presentations, the AFI will host an annual conference focusing on critical and emerging themes in African feminism. They will also engage in research projects and capacity-building activities with colleagues, both in the United States and at various African universities.

Gabeba Baderoon and Alicia C. Decker, Associate Professors in the Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and the African Studies Program at Penn State, are co-directors of the African Feminist Initiative. The Steering Committee consists of the co-directors and five additional Penn State scholars who work in the area of African feminist thought: Maha Marouan, Hoda El Shakry, Ebony Coletu, Rosemary Jolly and Iyun Osagie. The AFI Advisory Board includes leading African feminist scholars from around the world. Current members include Akosua Adomako Ampofo, Theresa Barnes, Kum-Kum Bhavnani, Mary Hames, Amina Mama, Patricia McFadden, Awino Okech, Margo Okazawa-Rey, Fatima Sadiqi and Sylvia Tamale.

Limited funding will be available to offset costs for selected participants.

Please send abstracts consisting of 250 words and a list of works cited, and brief CV or bio, to gxb26@psu.edu and acdecker@psu.edu by June 1st, 2016.