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African Studies Center

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Fall #4, September 22nd, 2020

AFRICA @ MSU THIS WEEK



Eye on Africa Fall Schedule

This Week's Speaker and Topic:

Kwasi Ampene: 'Petitioning the King: Kete Songs, Lineage and Kinship in Asante'

Welcome to the MSU African Studies Center's Eye On Africa speaker series. Due to the restrictions on travel and assembly imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, we will meet virtually throughout the fall. Please follow this link for the fall 2020 Eye On Africa schedule and for the required one-time registration:

[Fall Schedule](#) | [Register Here](#)

African Tea Time

This Week's Topic:

Kenya & Burundi, Africa's Resources and Innovations: Opportunities for Growth

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Advancing African and Diaspora Academic Relations: Role of Diaspora in Higher Education and Innovation in Africa

Association of African Universities (AAU)

Date: Tuesday, September 29th, 2020

Time: 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM (EDT)

This session will share the findings of a study to explore the landscape of research leadership across Africa and make recommendations to stakeholders on how they can play their part in developing the next generation and building the capacity and capability of current African research leaders. It will look specifically at gender and research leadership and how it plays out in Africa. Firstly, a review of gender diversity within the research enterprise in Africa will be interrogated, then we will hear several perspectives: one from the Vice Chancellor of an African Research University on their programs and strategies around gender; secondly from an early career woman researcher on how they navigated their research careers; and thirdly from a scholar in the African Futures Research Leadership Program established by the Alliance for African Partnership at MSU to demonstrate African and Diaspora Academic Relations in action. Finally we will provide specific recommendations to funders, institutions, research leaders and researchers on what they will need to consider to accelerate world-class research, foster innovation, build linkages with policy makers and promote scientific and research leadership in Africa.

This is a side event at the AAU African Diaspora Conference being held by the Alliance for African Partnership (AAP).

[Register Here](#)

Speakers for Eye on Africa

African Studies Center Core Faculty: Please remember you can suggest speakers for Eye on Africa at any time. To do so, please fill out this [form](#).

Student Awards and Fellowships - Deadline Extended

The African Studies Center is accepting applications for [The Roger Meece Awards](#) and [The Nnamdi Azikiwe International African Student Fellowship](#). The deadline for these Awards has been extended to October 15.

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We are looking for MSU undergraduate and graduate students for an exciting opportunity to participate in cross-cultural conversations the U.S. and South African students on critical issues facing young people in today's world!

Contact Dr. Upenyu Majee (majeeupe@msu.edu) for more info.

[Full Statement](#)

Ubuntu Dialogues: Virtual Webinar

Date: Tuesday, September 29th, 2020

Time: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (EST)

Join our virtual webinar where we will have speakers; Unifier Dyer (PhD Candidate at University of Wisconsin-Madison) & Rhoda Malg Candidate at Stellenbosch University) where they will discuss their research relating to *Ubuntu and Women's Experiences as Epistemo Biocultural Heritage in the Cape Floristic Region*, respectively.

[More Info](#) | [Register Here](#)

AAP Bridge and PIRA Launch



Date: Wednesday, September 23rd, 2020

Time: 8:00 AM (EDT) / 12:00 PM (GMT) / 1:00 PM (WAST) / 2:00 PM (SAST) / 3:00 PM (EAT)

Please join the Alliance for African Partnership as we launch the AAP Bridge, our new collaboration platform that allows members to e identify and contact AAP faculty members in response to research and funding opportunities while staying informed of consortium new

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Following the launch of the AAP Bridge, we will announce our new Partnership

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initiatives.

[Register Here](#)

First AAU Virtual Homecoming



AFRICAN ACADEMIC DIASPORA VIRTUAL HOMECOMING 2020

The Association of African Universities (AAU), in collaboration with the African Union and the Government of Ghana, is inviting all educational stakeholders to the first Virtual AAU-Academic Diaspora Homecoming.

The overall objective of the Homecoming is to strengthen collaboration and partnership among research and educational institutions of higher learning in Africa and the African Diaspora to advance quality of education and general wellbeing of all persons of African descent.

Main Theme:

Advancing African and Diasporan Academic Relations

Date: September 28th - 30th, 2020

Time: 15:00 (GMT), 11:00AM (EST).

Kindly convert the time to your local time.

Venue: Virtual, Association of African Universities'E-Forum


Registration: <https://cutt.ly/Bo9XWFz>

Sub-themes

1. Role of the Diaspora in **Higher Education and Innovation in Africa**
2. Strengthening relationships between **US Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) and African universities**
3. **Women of African Descent in Higher Education: Opportunities and Challenges**

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4. Higher Education: A Paradox to Racism and Promoting Social Justice



Contact Details
Email: namo@aaau.org; secgen@aaau.org
Tel/Whatsapp
+1312-5398473/+14107536273/+12022907841
+233 243 298 464/+233 208 152 735/+233 502 699 914/+233 246 425 147

Date: September 28th - September 30th, 2020

Time: 15:00 (GMT) / 11:00 AM (EST)

The Association of African Universities (AAU), in partnership with the African Union (AU) and the Government of Ghana, is inviting all educational stakeholders to the first Virtual African Academic Diaspora Homecoming. The overall objective of the Homecoming is to st collaboration and partnership among research and educational institutions of higher learning in Africa and the Diaspora to advance qu education for all persons of African descent. The event is intended to be a major gathering of academics, policy makers, professional associations, research institutions, regional diplomatic missions and student associations from Africa and the diaspora.

[More Info](#) | [Register Here](#)

PeaceQuest 2020

[PeaceQuestGreaterLansing.org](https://www.peacequestgreaterlansing.org)

Date: September 1st - September 27th, 2020

PeaceQuest is a community-wide celebration in the Greater Lansing area held every September to celebrate the United Nations Intern Day of Peace, which was declared by the UN General Assembly with a resolution passed unanimously in 1981. PeaceQuest brings us together for fun and interesting activities with friends, family, and community while focusing on ways we can promote peace, resolve c learn about other faiths and cultures, and encourage mutual understanding.

PeaceQuest  **Is for ALL!** 

[More Info](#) | [Full Schedule](#)

Accessing African Children's Literature through Online Resources

American Library Association (ALA)

Date: Wednesday, September 30th, 2020

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are working together to provide a positive learning environment for students, both in the US and in Africa. The panelists will present two different online resources that will serve as guides to locating and utilizing African children's literature. Please join us on September 30 for an enlightening presentation on African children's literature, with time for a Q&A session, on this important and timely topic.

[More Info](#)

Symposium on African Digital Storytelling

Institute for Digital Research in the Humanities, University of Kansas

Date: October 8th, 2020 & October 9th, 2020

Time: 10:00 AM (CT) / 11:00 AM (ET)

The importance of storytelling in African societies dates back to different forms of oral tradition that make knowledge, history, and experience transferable across time, cultures, and groups. The symposium on digital storytelling in Africa will center the ways in which digital media hardware and software expand the forums and techniques available to Africans to tell stories about different aspects of life on the continent. We will bring together participants from different parts of the world, including African locations, to think together about digital storytelling and what it might mean in the context of African digital cultures.

The conversation will appeal to anyone interested in storytelling and the digital humanities more generally.

[More Info](#) | [Register Here](#)



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