

# African Studies Center Michigan State University

## Weekly Bulletin

February 21, 2017

Spring #7

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

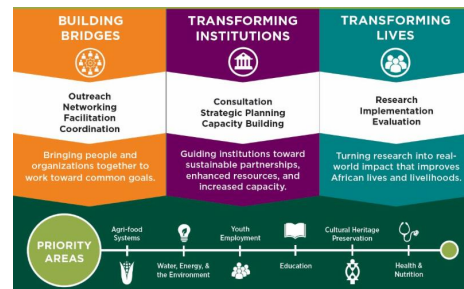
Please feel free to visit our website for more information:  
<http://www.africa.isp.msu.edu>

### 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, February 23, 2017

12:00- 1:30pm- Room 201 International Center

**"Religion, Culture, the Arts and the Making of the African Nation-State."** Eye on Africa with Emmanuel Akyeampong, Ellen Gurney Professor of History and African American Studies and Oppenheimer Faculty Director, Center for African Studies, Harvard University.

Thursday, March 2, 2017

12:00- 1:30pm- Room 201 International Center

**"African Agency in the Making of a British Colony: A Microhistorical Analysis."** Eye on Africa with Joseph J. Bangura, Chair, African History and Director of African Studies, Kalamazoo College



[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!*



*February 23 Lesotho, South Africa and Swaziland*

*March 2 Ethiopia, Somalia and Tunisia*

*March 16 Mali and Senegal*

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

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## MSU ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Michigan State University in the News

Thomas Jayne (AFRE/AAP) outlines the impact of Ethiopia's Commodity Exchange on agriculture. <http://econ.st/2lbu1Nm>.

Jamie Monson (ASC/AAP) discusses the significance of Chinese railway construction in Djibouti. <http://nyti.ms/2liCLTX>.

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### Global Engagement Speaker Series

Wednesday, March 15th, 2017  
12:30pm in 110 Chittenden Hall

Born in Uganda, Odora Hoppers first studied in her home country and in Zambia before becoming a Swedish citizen and completing her doctorate in social sciences at Stockholm University. She has since forged a multifaceted career as a scholar and policy adviser, serving many leading international organizations in education, gender policy, disarmament, and intellectual property rights. Professor Hoppers received the Nelson Mandela Distinguished Africanist Award in 2015. The award is given to an African who has distinguished himself or herself in public leadership positions. Hoppers's principal areas of interest include: building capacity for trans-disciplinary basic and applied research in support of Africa's development; providing support to policy formulation and implementation for sustainable development and human security in Africa and internationally; promoting the social and economic justice agenda including the rights of local communities; and promoting dialogue across cultures and epistemologies by developing protocols for respectful cultural exchange, strengthening the enfranchisement of Africans, and promoting endogenous research.

Graduate students may join Dr. Hoppers for an informal conversation before her lecture from 12:30-1:30pm. Lunch will be provided. Please register by sending an email to [gradwrsp@grd.msu.edu](mailto:gradwrsp@grd.msu.edu) with your name, department affiliation, and "Global Engagement Speaker Series" in the subject line

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### New Course

Summer 2017

Intercultural Communication and Business Etiquette in the Arab  
World-ARB 491 sec. 730

#### Course Description

The online 3 credit course examines the Arab people's historical background, language varieties, literary traditions, and representative social institutions as it relates to political, sociolinguistic or business topics. The

course will mainly cater for business and travel needs; i.e. individuals who need to be in contact with Arab people or countries for travel, study abroad or business. Intercultural business etiquettes and effective communication will be explored through particular case studies from the Arab world. The course material will be explored through lectures and videos supported by listening and viewing guides in addition to discussions based upon the assigned readings and lectures. Enjoy the convenience of summer learning wherever you are in the world.

For additional information, please contact Dr. Ayman A. Mohamed at [mohame44@msu.edu](mailto:mohame44@msu.edu).

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## The Office of International Studies in Education invites you to join in a series of Career-related Sessions for internationally-oriented students

Tuesday, Feb 28-12-1:30pm, 252 Erickson

Internationally-Focused Administrative Careers in U.S. Higher Education Institutions

Wednesday, March 1-12-1:30, 133G

Preparing for careers in international education development: Working in an international organization, NGO, foundation, and other non-university-based settings

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Upcoming events hosted by the Talsky Center for Human Rights at the MSU Law Center:

Monday, March 27, 2017

### **Symposium on Immigrants' Rights Under International Law**

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER:** Morten Kjaerum, Director of Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, Sweden; Chair, Board of the European Council on Refugees and Exiles  
**PANEL #1: ESPECIALLY VULNERABLE MIGRANT POPULATIONS: CHILDREN, WOMEN, AND INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS:** Sumudu Atapattu, Director, Research Centers & Coordinator, UW-Madison Human Rights Program, University of Wisconsin Law School; Michael Garcia Bochenek, Senior Counsel, Children's Rights Division, Human Rights Watch; Roberta Cohen, Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution; Karen Musalo, Professor of Law and Director of Center for Gender & Refugee Studies, U.C. Hastings College of Law

**PANEL #2: INTERNATIONAL LAW GOVERNING MIGRANT POPULATIONS: OVERARCHING PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS:** Vincent Chetail, Professor of Public International Law and Director of Global Migration Centre, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland; Juss Satvinder, Professor of Law, King's College, London, England; E. Tendayi Achiume, Professor of Law, UCLA School of Law; Colin Harvey, Professor of Human Rights Law, School of Law, Queen's University, Belfast, Ireland

10:00 to 5:20

MSU Law, Castle Board Room

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## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

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### GJEC Fellowships for Dissertation Research & Completion

The Gender, Justice, and Environmental Change (GJEC) Program, at the Center for Gender in Global Context (GenCen), is pleased to announce fellowships for MSU graduate students for the 2017-18 academic year.

Generous funding provided by MSU's Graduate School allows us to offer four fellowship opportunities of up to \$10,000\*\* in the following two categories:  
GJEC Dissertation Research Fellowship

Eligibility: Ph.D. students at MSU who have completed all requirements for their degree with the exception of their dissertation research. Applicants must have dissertation projects that focus specifically on the gender dimensions of environmental and/or agricultural change.  
GJEC Dissertation Completion Fellowship

Eligibility: Ph.D. students at MSU who have completed dissertation research and all other requirements for their degree program, except for completion of the dissertation. Applicants must graduate by Spring 2018, and their dissertations must focus on the gender dimensions of environmental and/or agricultural change.

Funding must be used during the 2017-18 academic year. Applications are due April 15, 2017, and are available at [www.gencen.msu.edu/funding/gjec.htm](http://www.gencen.msu.edu/funding/gjec.htm).

Email: [gencenga@msu.edu](mailto:gencenga@msu.edu)

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## International Studies and Programs (ISP) Student Funding Opportunities Deadline: March 1, 2017

In an effort to continue to internationalize the student experience, ISP takes pride in helping to support students who are interested in working on the world's greatest problems. Here are some internationally focused funding opportunities, administered by the ISP Dean's office, for undergraduate and graduate students.

### [Claffey Meyer International Travel Grant \(doc\)](#)

This award provides financial assistance to domestic students who intend to travel to developing countries for the purpose of providing technical assistance, participate in research, or engage in service. The intent is for students to work towards discovering and implementing solutions in response to urgent human needs (for example: food security, environmental quality, health and nutrition, education, and other areas) and, thereby, to encourage careers in international development teaching, research and practice. Grants are intended to support travel, related living expenses, and projects costs, not to be used as a tuition scholarship.

### [David D. Horner International Student Scholarship Fund](#)

A scholarship fund reserved for international students in financial distress due to circumstances beyond their control, which may jeopardize students' ability to remain at MSU.

### [Dr. Charles and Marjorie Gliozzo Dissertation Research Scholarship](#)

This scholarship is available to MSU doctoral students with dissertation research objectives who have defended, or are in the process of defending, a dissertation proposal. The scholarship supports field research abroad in support of the student's dissertation.

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## Office of the Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies Discretionary Funding Initiative (DFI) Deadline: March 2, 2017

The Discretionary Funding Initiative (DFI), funded by the Michigan State University Foundation, provides bridge funds for tenure stream faculty for additional studies needed for resubmission of an unsuccessful, but nearly fundable, grant application to the same funding agency. To request funding from this program, faculty should submit a request to the research associate dean of their college (lead college, if appointed in multiple colleges) using the DFI information form attached to this email. Applicants will be expected to provide copies of their previous external reviews, if applicable, and describe the work that will be completed to address the comments provided in these documents.

Requests for support approved by the research associate deans will be forwarded to the Office of the Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies in a prioritized list. The maximum award from the OVPRGS will be \$25K and will require a 100% (up to \$25K) match from units or colleges. The PIs of the recommended projects will be required to submit an electronic transmittal. Funds will be available for 18 months, and an

activity report will be required at the end of the granting period.

#### Timeline

February 9, 2017	RFA
March 2, 2017	Deadline for applicants to submit applications to their college.
March 30, 2017	Deadline for Research Associate Deans to submit applications to the OVPRGS. Applications must be sent to <a href="mailto:proposal@msu.edu">proposal@msu.edu</a> no later than 5pm.
April 6, 2017	E-transmittal must be finalized for applications that were sent to the OVPRGS for consideration.
May 4, 2017	Funding announcements will be made.
May 30, 2017	Project Start Date



## Research Grant Deadline: March 31, 2017

The Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa (ASMEA) is offering the following Grant Opportunities in conjunction with the Tenth Annual ASMEA Conference on October 19 - 21, 2017 in Washington, D.C.

#### Research Grants

ASMEA is offering research grants of up to \$2500 to qualified professors and students engaged in the study of the Middle East and Africa. Applications must be accompanied by a paper proposal that represents new and unpublished research and is relevant to the qualifying research areas designated by ASMEA. Successful research grant applicants are required to present their research at the Tenth Annual ASMEA Conference and provide ASMEA the right of first refusal for potential publication in our peer-reviewed Journal of the Middle East and Africa.

To stimulate new and diverse lines of discourse about the Middle East and Africa, ASMEA's Research Grants Program seeks to support research on topics that deserve greater attention. The topic areas and sub-topics listed below are intended as a guide for potential participants in the program and constitute the types of subjects that ASMEA intends to support. An applicant may submit a proposal on any topic as long as it is directly relevant to the five broad areas outlined and constitutes new and original research: Status of Minorities and Women, Modern Military History, Governance and Economy, Belief, and Personal Status.

#### Travel Grants

ASMEA is offering travel grants to qualified scholars and students whose paper proposals are accepted for presentation at the Tenth Annual ASMEA Conference. Grants of up to \$750 are available for international applicants while U.S. applicants may receive grants of up to \$500.

Applicants with questions about the topic areas or about the program in general may contact ASMEA at [info@asmeascholars.org](mailto:info@asmeascholars.org).

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## Center for Advanced Study of International Development International Strategic Partnership Funding Deadline: March 1, 2017

The Provost and Associate Provost and Dean of ISP have made funding available to develop international strategic partnerships with universities and institutions of higher education and research abroad. The funding is focused on the international themes of food and agriculture, environment, health and nutrition, and education. These partnerships should involve MSU faculty from multiple disciplines and fields of study. Collaborations focused on these international themes that involve faculty from Arts and Letters or Social Science are encouraged. Partnerships should center on collaborative research, including proposal development and preliminary research activities that build institutional capacity and strengthen the institutional partnership.

Strategic partnerships should ultimately lead to potential long-term research and other collaborations between MSU and the partner institution. Grant development can be facilitated by CASID staff in collaboration with involved units. Funding may be granted for continued support to develop these partnerships, depending on the outcomes of the initial grant.

If you have questions about the application requirements and/or process please contact Jennifer Brewer, International Program Coordinator, Center for Advanced Study of International Development at: [brewer13@isp.msu.edu](mailto:brewer13@isp.msu.edu).

Proposals received by March 1, 2017, will be reviewed this cycle. Applications received after March 1, 2017 will be reviewed based on the availability of funds. Please submit applications to Jennifer Brewer at: [brewer13@isp.msu.edu](mailto:brewer13@isp.msu.edu).

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## CONFERENCES

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### CALL FOR PAPERS

Rethinking the Afropolitan: The Ethics of Black Atlantic Masculinities on Display  
College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA  
Friday, October 20th and Saturday October 21st, 2017

A 21st century term, "Afropolitan," already is charged with contested meanings. Celebrated by some as the pinnacle of African modernities, others see the Afropolitan as a glorified consumer or perennial object of Western consumption. However, most discussions of Afropolitans have occurred in relation to the arts, literature, and fashion and almost exclusively in relation to Africans in Western cities or Westernized enclaves in Africa in the present. A historicized approach to the concept of the Afropolitan raises new questions about how scholars and activists read race, gender, identity, and ethics in images and texts. We challenge our participants and audience to historicize and complicate the idea of the Afropolitan and the controversies it has engendered. Our conceptualization of the Black Atlantic incorporates people of color and the range of communities they form among themselves and with others across the African and European continents and the whole of the Americas and the Caribbean.

Submissions need not be confined to these topics, but, if possible, please indicate at least two themes that correspond to your proposal:

The Politics of Performance (Visual, music, and multimedia arts; Performing citizenship; The art of athletics)  
Redefining the Black Atlantic (Transnational networks, Geographies of power, Beyond empire)  
Sexualities (Bodies of knowledge, Politics of desire, Trans- networks)  
Men in Labor (Histories and legacies of slavery, Policing work, Representing leisure and resistance)  
Fatherhoods and Families (Affective ties, Iconic mothers, Blended families)  
The Politics of Religion (Disciplining bodies, Ethics of redemption, Gendered representations of the divine)  
Reproducing Bodies (The economics of citizenship, Symbolism and consumption, Criminalization and mass incarceration)  
Theories and Male Models (Space and mobility, Politics of community organizing, Self-fashioning beyond genders)

Please [submit a title, 250-word abstract](#), and a 2-page CV by April 1, 2017.

If you have any questions, please contact Rosa Carrasquillo at [rcarrasq@holycross.edu](mailto:rcarrasq@holycross.edu) or Lorelle Semley at [lsemley@holycross.edu](mailto:lsemley@holycross.edu) and include "Rethinking the Afropolitan" in the subject line. Authors of accepted proposals will be contacted by June 1, 2017 and complete papers or presentations will be due on August 15, 2017 for pre-circulation with discussants and conference participants.

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### Education without borders? Frictions and boundary-crossing in the field of internationalised education

Panel at the 2nd Transmobilities & Development Conference: Frictions in a mobile world, Radboud University, Nijmegen, 8-9 June 2017

#### Description:

The education field, across secondary, tertiary and professional levels, has become increasingly internationalised. The field is traversed by intersecting flows of people (students, staff and administrators), other tangible materials (money, books and other learning materials, equipment etc.) and intangible elements



(money, knowledge, teaching and learning philosophies and techniques, management practices etc.). In migration/mobilities research, internationally mobile students have been the focus of many studies in the growing research field. While these students are generally viewed as an unproblematic migrant category, research has also shown the unevenness and 'darker' sides of their mobility experiences. Together with mobility, frictions and social boundary-crossings also define, in intersecting and contingent ways, the lived experiences of these mobile students. The is true for other elements in the field, e.g. institutions, practices, staff, curricula, knowledge, resources, skills and profits as well - they do not just flow across borders as often propagated but experience (and generate) frictions and (new) boundaries. The mobility and frictions of these various elements in turn shape the production, circulation and consumption of education and knowledge. It is important to examine how and why some elements cross social and geographical boundaries, while other elements are more difficult to mobilise and transfer into new contexts. This panel seeks to address the ways in which the frictions are created, experienced and resisted. How do these frictions affect geographies of knowledge and power? Who benefits from frictions? And who gets blocked? Can frictions also be creative? What are the implications for local education sectors and labour markets? Which policies and agendas have eliminated frictions and/or produced new ones? We are keen to receive abstracts from researchers interested in one or more of these questions.

Submission of abstracts: If you are interested in participating, please send a title and 250-word abstract to Jill Ahrens ([j.ahrens@uu.nl](mailto:j.ahrens@uu.nl)) or Maggi Leung ([w.h.m.leung@uu.nl](mailto:w.h.m.leung@uu.nl)) by the 7th of April.

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## CALL FOR PROPOSALS

### 60th Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association

### Institutions: Creativity and Resilience in Africa

### November 16-18, 2017

DEADLINE FOR PROPOSAL SUBMISSION: March 15, 2017

#### ABOUT THE MEETING

We are soliciting proposals for papers, panels, roundtables, Author meets Critic, and flash sessions. Presentations may focus on the theme of "Institutions: Creativity and Resilience in Africa" or on broader social science, humanities, and applied themes relating to Africa. We strongly encourage the submission of formed panels. You can find more information about the theme and the call for proposals on the [ASA website](#).

#### HOW TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL

Instructions for submitting proposals can be found online on the [ASA website](#).

#### SUBMIT A CALL FOR PANELISTS

The ASA encourages individuals to post calls for panelists on the ASA website before the March 15 deadline, so that participants may utilize the ASA network to find potential panelists. Calls for Panelists may be submitted through the form on the ASA website. A list of proposed panels, along with contact information for their chairs, will be made available on a rolling basis on the ASA website. Please note that panel organizers must finalize their panel participants and submit an organized panel proposal by March 15, 2017.

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## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Africa and the World: literature, politics, and global geographies

### A Summer Institute for Educators

### June 14 - 17, 2017

African countries are often negatively portrayed in Western media and only make an occasional appearance in countless social studies textbooks in U.S. schools. Even fewer K-12 and community college curricula demonstrate the cultural riches and diversity of the continent. But literature is arguably one of the most powerful tools educators could use to broaden students' understanding of African cultures and societies.

The place of African writers in the primary and secondary classroom is typically limited to short explorations of

a single author, often treated as representative of the entire continent. But in the post-secondary level, African literatures broadly defined should engage questions of what it means for a body of creative work to be framed as regional, national, "postcolonial", or "world" in a globalizing context. In collaboration with the African Literature Association's (ALA) annual conference, the institute will offer a four-day intensive program for K-12 and community college educators who are passionate about using creative literary works to explore Africa's complex social histories, politics, and cultural identities. The institute may be of particular interest not only to English/Language Arts educators, but to Social Studies and other Humanities teachers looking to creatively incorporate literature, poetry, or drama into their curriculum.

Participants will have access to notable African authors and leading literary scholars who will present on themes of migration and creative writing, the teaching of canonical African texts, film in the classroom, and poetry and performance. Participants will also have the opportunity to attend select events within the larger ALA conference.

The institute will offer a broad range of resources for teachers interested in integrating this content into their classroom curriculum. These include pedagogical workshops on how to analyze and teach literary sources from Africa, as well as how to utilize materials from the Yale Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library and the Yale University Art Gallery.

A Curriculum Advisor will also form an integral part of the program to assist participants in authoring their own curricular units, which can potentially be published on PIER's website as resources for outside educators.

Please note participants will be accepted on a rolling basis until registration is full. Final date for applications is 4/16/2017.

Apply online at [pier.macmillan.yale.edu](http://pier.macmillan.yale.edu)

For additional information: Programs in International Educational Resources at the MacMillan Center 115 Prospect Street \* New Haven, CT 06510(203) 432-3412.

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## Call for Submissions: Poems and Essays on Being Black and Bicultural

We are accepting submissions for a new book on being Black or African and bicultural. We are accepting submissions from authors who self-identify as Black, and who navigate multicultural Black spaces to varying degrees over time. The book uses a Pan African lens to examine what it means to be Black or African. Meaning, what it means to inhabit a Black or African racial identity, but inhabit multiple Black or African cultural identities. The book will highlight the experiences of Black people with different cultural backgrounds and experiences. This includes individuals with one parent from one part of Africa or the African Diaspora, and one parent from another part of Africa or the African Diaspora, individuals with both parents born in Africa or the African Diaspora who grew up in a country other than that of their parent's birth, as well as individuals with other bicultural or multicultural backgrounds.

We are accepting original (previously unpublished) poetry and essays. Essays should be no more than 5,000 words and should be reflections on the experiences and/or observations of the author. For poetry, please submit no more than 2 poems.

Essays should begin by reflecting on how authors self-identify. Essays should then focus on answering at least one of the following questions:

- Have you always had a dual identity, or have you moved between both identities?
- How has being bicultural framed your identity?
- How did your adolescence differ from that of your peers?
- How has being bicultural shaped your activism?
- How has being bicultural framed what it means to be Black or African in \_\_\_\_\_ for you?
- How did being in a bicultural household shape how you were raised?
- How have your experiences shaped your adoption of one culture over the other, or your adoption of both cultures?
- How have your dating experiences or patterns been impacted by you being bicultural?
- How has your cultural background impacted how you have raised, or will raise, your children?
- How have racial constructs of \_\_\_\_\_ society impacted you?
- How has being bicultural impacted your relationship with both communities?

Please submit a 1-paragraph personal statement and short bio by March 1.



Deadline for the submission of completed poems and essays is June 1.

Questions and submissions should be sent to: Dr. Msia Kibona Clark, Assistant Professor of African Studies at Howard University ([Msia.clark@howard.edu](mailto:Msia.clark@howard.edu)), Dr. Phiwokuhle Mnyandu, Lecturer of African Studies and Zulu at Howard University ([phiwokuhle.mnyandu@Howard.edu](mailto:phiwokuhle.mnyandu@Howard.edu)), and Loy Azalia, PhD Candidate in the Department of African Studies at Howard University ([loy.azalia@gmail.com](mailto:loy.azalia@gmail.com)).



## Submit nominations for our 2017 awards today!

The African Studies Association is pleased to announce that we are accepting nominations for the following awards and prizes in 2017:

The [ASA Presidential Fellows Program](#) provides opportunities for academics and practitioners with a scholarly interest in Africa to travel to the U.S. to attend the ASA Annual Meeting, visit institutions of higher learning in the United States, engage with academics working on Africa-related issues, and more. Deadline for nominations: March 20.

The [Melville J. Herskovits Prize](#) is awarded to the author of the most important scholarly work in African studies published in English during the preceding year. Deadline for nominations: April 30. Please note - Nomination letters must be received by the Secretariat by April 30 and all review copies of the publications need to be post-marked by the same date.

The [Bethwell A. Ogot Book Prize](#) is awarded to the author of the best book on East African Studies published in the previous calendar year. Deadline for nominations: April 30. Please note - Nomination letters must be received by the Secretariat by April 30 and all review copies of the publications need to be post-marked by the same date.

The [Distinguished Africanist Award](#) recognizes a lifetime of distinguished contributions to African studies. Deadline for nominations: April 30.

The [Graduate Student Paper Prize](#) is awarded to the best graduate student paper presented at the previous year's Annual Meeting. Deadline for nominations: April 30.

The [Paul Hair Prize](#) recognizes the best critical edition or translation into English of primary source materials on Africa published during the preceding two years. Deadline for nominations: April 30.

The [Gretchen Walsh Book Donation Award](#) offers an annual grant program to assist book donation projects

with shipping costs to send books to African libraries and schools. Deadline for nominations: April 30.

The [Royal Air Maroc-ASA Student Travel Award](#) is granted to students to facilitate and increase the movement of students and the exchange of ideas, between students of African Studies in Africa and the United States. The overarching aim of the award is to acknowledge outstanding scholarship by future African Studies scholars. Deadline for nominations: April 30.

## Contact

[africa@campusad.msu.edu](mailto:africa@campusad.msu.edu)

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## Stay Connected



*We want to feature you  
(students, faculty, alumni)  
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[mocktara@msu.edu](mailto:mocktara@msu.edu).*