



HARVARD UNIVERSITY
CENTER FOR AFRICAN STUDIES

Annual Report 2018

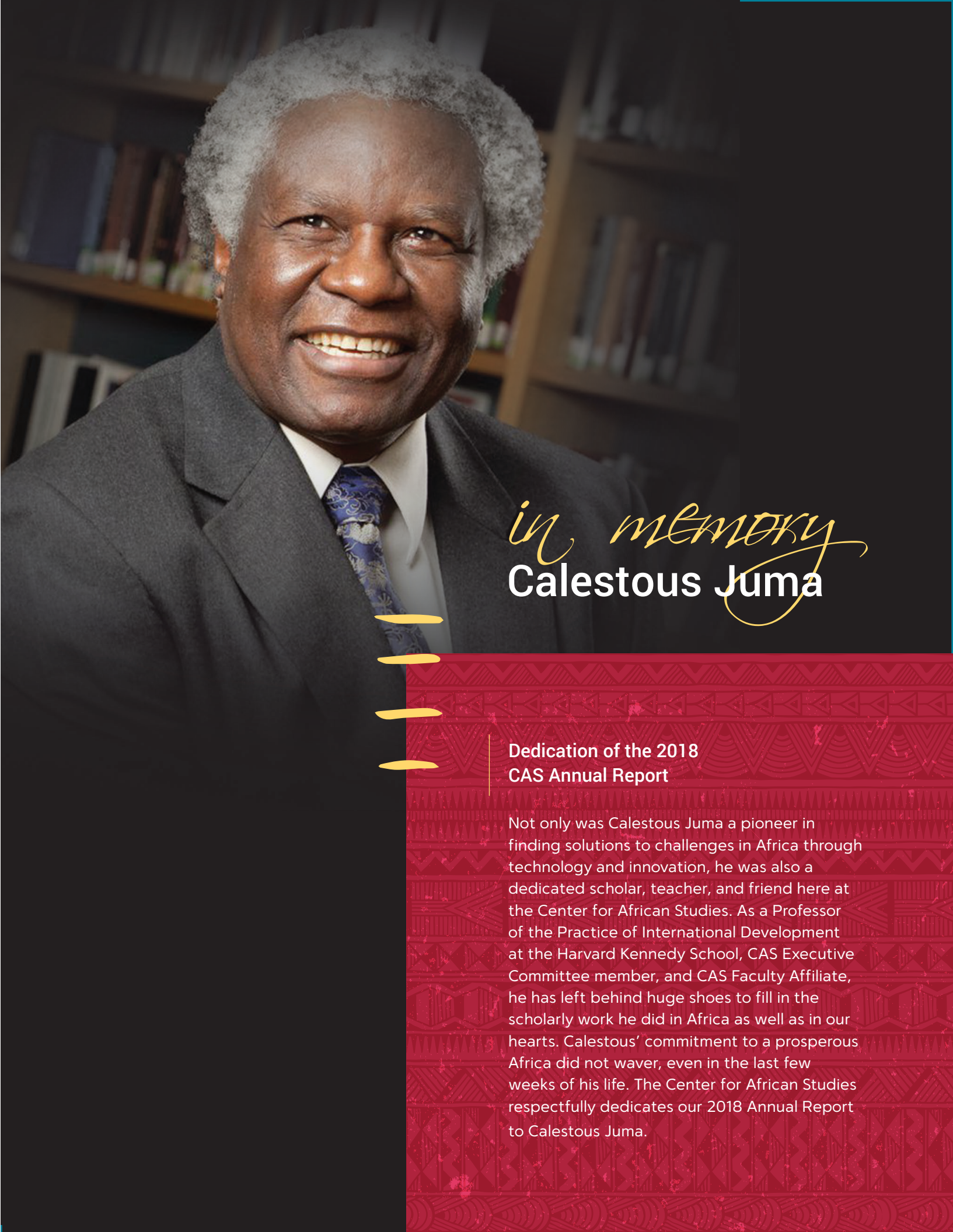


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Harvard University Center for African Studies

The Harvard University Center for African Studies is a globally recognized, interdisciplinary body at Harvard University committed to broadening knowledge about Africa and African perspectives. Our vision is a world where authentic understandings of Africa, African experiences, and African perspectives are commonplace. Stop by and say hello!



in memory
Calestous Juma

Dedication of the 2018 CAS Annual Report

Not only was Calestous Juma a pioneer in finding solutions to challenges in Africa through technology and innovation, he was also a dedicated scholar, teacher, and friend here at the Center for African Studies. As a Professor of the Practice of International Development at the Harvard Kennedy School, CAS Executive Committee member, and CAS Faculty Affiliate, he has left behind huge shoes to fill in the scholarly work he did in Africa as well as in our hearts. Calestous’ commitment to a prosperous Africa did not waver, even in the last few weeks of his life. The Center for African Studies respectfully dedicates our 2018 Annual Report to Calestous Juma.



Dear Friends,


It is with great pride and enthusiasm that I share with you the activities and achievements of the Center for African Studies over this past year. We continue to provide a platform for students, scholars, and academics who not only shape the perception of Africa at Harvard University but also shape the way Africa is viewed in the global context.

In August 2017, the Cambridge Office moved into a new and larger space at 1280 Massachusetts Avenue to accommodate our growing programs and visiting fellows. This space is shared with the African Languages Program, creating for the first time an ideal space for Harvard's Africanist and African communities. The office's location, directly across from the hub of Harvard's academic life, Harvard Yard, is a testament to Harvard University's ongoing commitment to African Studies.

The Africa Office in Johannesburg has officially been open for a full-year. The office has hosted a series of events to fulfill CAS's purpose to broaden public and scholarly awareness about Africa, African experiences, and African perspectives. The Africa Office continues to build relationships with our partners and alumni throughout the continent.

We expanded opportunities for Harvard students to gain work experience in Africa this year with another fully-funded internship program. The inaugural Jospong internship cohort arrived in Accra, Ghana, in July 2018 and gained invaluable work experience for eight weeks at the Jospong Group of Companies in waste management, banking and finance, information communication technology, and mining.

The annual Harvard Dean's Distinction Award was bestowed on CAS in March 2018 in recognition for working collaboratively across two continents to successfully launch Harvard's first Center in Sub-Saharan Africa last year. The award honors Harvard University's highest-achieving Faculty of Arts and Sciences staff members whose accomplishments have significantly enhanced and extended collaborations across the University. In launching the Africa Office, the team delivered a successful event that boosted Harvard's reputation across the African continent and beyond.



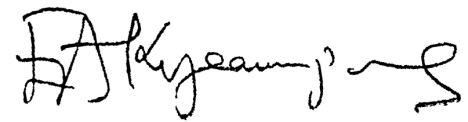
Emmanuel Kwaku Akyeampong

Oppenheimer Faculty Director,
Harvard University Center
for African Studies

The Center hosted many events and activities over the past year, most notably, our Africa-Asia Conference and Africa’s Leaders Speak. In November 2017, we hosted our inaugural Africa-Asia Conference, Africa-Asia Connections: Bridging Past, Present, and Future, at the Harvard Center Shanghai in China. Through this initiative, we have collaborated with many partners across the University, Asia, and Africa to facilitate an exchange of ideas to expand interest and knowledge of the Africa-Asia relationship. In April 2018, we hosted Africa’s Leaders Speak in Cambridge, bringing together three former African heads of state for a reception, workshop, public forum, and dinner. This event was a platform for academics, business leaders, and policy makers to translate high-level discussions into actionable solutions on policy and business issues and to suggest new directions in academic research.

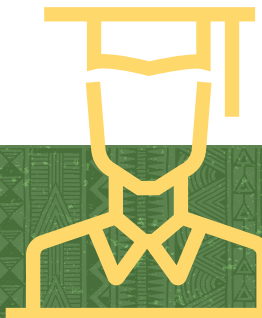
Support for CAS programs has been strong over the past year. We strive to continue our quality programming in and about Africa and to strengthen our research areas: Climate Change, Agriculture, and Health; Africa and Asia; and Religion and Public Life in Africa. Without your support, these programs would not be possible.

We will continue to strengthen our connections on the African continent as well as broaden our reach in the Harvard community to bring to light new and different experiences and perspectives about Africa. I invite you to look back on our activities and achievements in the past year, as we look forward to advancing our work in the teaching, research, and learning about Africa at Harvard. Thank you for your continued partnership and support in this vision for African studies at Harvard. Through our future endeavors, we hope to make Harvard a more international place.



Emmanuel Kwaku Akyeampong
Oppenheimer Faculty Director,
Harvard University Center for African Studies

>> Harvard and Africa



231 African students enrolled	45 African Languages taught	20+ African Student Groups
94 fellows from Africa each year	459 students traveled to Africa last year	3400+ Harvard Alumni in Africa
\$9M+ per year in Fellowships for African Students	120+ Harvard professors working on Africa-related topics	225+ Africa-related HBS Case Studies
52 Partnerships In Africa		\$70M+ in African Studies Activities FY17/18



Governance & Leadership

Harvard University Center for African Studies Governance and Leadership

Executive Committee

The Harvard Center for African Studies Executive Committee is comprised of senior faculty members who represent a wide range of disciplines in Harvard's Faculty of Arts and Sciences and the Professional Schools. The Executive Committee oversees the strategic direction, academic plan, and financial sustainability of the Center.

Steering Committee

The Harvard Center for African Studies Steering Committee comprises a small group of Executive Committee members who work closely with the Faculty Director to advise and discuss specific initiatives at the Center.

Africa Advisory Board

In 2016, the Center for African Studies introduced the Africa Advisory Board to the Center's governance structure. The Board brings together entrepreneurs, policy makers, academic leaders, and cultural figures to connect the Center for African Studies to the vibrant scene in technological innovation and artistic creativity on the African continent, and to advise on the policy relevance of the Center's research initiatives. Board members serve as ambassadors for the Center and assist in shaping the field of African Studies, intellectually and institutionally.

Leadership Council

In 2017, the Center for African Studies inaugurated the first cohort of the Center's Leadership Council. The Leadership Council is comprised of a group of 20 dynamic young leaders currently living or working on the African continent. Living across the continent, Leadership Council members extend the geographical and intellectual reach of the Johannesburg-based Africa Office.

Governance & Leadership

Harvard University Center for African Studies Executive Committee

- Emmanuel K. Akyeampong**
Oppenheimer Faculty Director,
Center for African Studies
- Jacqueline Bhabha
- Suzanne Blier
- Lawrence D. Bobo**
- Jean Comaroff**
- John Comaroff**
- Wafaie W. Fawzi**
- Deborah D. Foster**
- Henry Louis Gates Jr.**
- Evelynn Hammonds
- Biodun Jeyifo
- Geoffrey G. Jones
- Calestous Juma**
- Ann Marie Lipinski
- John Macomber
- Marcyliena Morgan
- John M. Mugane
- Nathan Nunn
- Jacob K. Olupona
- Kay Kaufman Shelemay
- Michael VanRooyen
- Lucie White

Double asterisk (**) denotes
simultaneous standing on the
Center for African Studies
Steering Committee



Governance & Leadership

Harvard University Center for African Studies Africa Advisory Board

- Hakeem Belo-Osagie**
Chair, Harvard University Africa Advisory Board
- Ilesanmi Adesida**
Professor Emeritus of Electrical & Computer Engineering,
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Joseph Agyepong**
Executive Chairman, JOSPONG Group of Companies
- Folorunso Alakija**
Executive Vice-Chairman, Famfa Oil Limited
- K.Y. Amoako**
President & Founder, African Center for Economic Transformation
- Myma Belo-Osagie**
Partner, Udo Udoma & Belo-Osagie Law Firm
- Paul Farmer**
Kolokotronis University Professor of Global Health & Social Medicine,
Harvard University; Chief Strategist & Co-Founder, Partners In Health
- Donald Kaberuka**
African Union High Representative, AU Peace Fund
- Kola Karim**
Chairman of the Board of Directors, Shoreline Natural Resources
- Carole Kariuki**
Chief Executive Officer, Kenya Private Sector Alliance
- Chris Kirubi**
Director, Centum
- Paul Maritz**
Chairman of the Board, Pivotal
- Precious Moloi-Motsepe**
Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer, The Motsepe Foundation
- Sizwe Nxasana**
Founder, Sifiso Learning Group
- Ory Okolloh**
Director of Investments, Omidyar Network
- Gavin Rajah**
Creative Director, Gavin Rajah Atelier; UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador
- Magda Wierzycka**
Chief Executive Officer, Sygnia Asset Management



Governance & Leadership

Harvard University Center for African Studies Leadership Council

Sangu Delle
Co-Chair, Harvard University Center for African Studies Leadership Council; Co-founder & Chief Executive Officer Golden Palm Investments

Kayode Ogunro
Co-Chair, Harvard University Center for African Studies Leadership Council; Managing Partner, Aion Holdings

Clare Akamanzi
Chief Executive Officer, Rwanda Development Board (RDB); Member of the Cabinet of Rwanda

Blinky Bill
Musician, Producer & DJ

Chris Bradford
Faculty, Co-founder & Chief Executive Officer, African Leadership Academy

Joy Buolamwini
Technology Activist & Founder, Code4Rights

Amal Enan
Chief of Staff & Director of Policy Planning, Egyptian-American Enterprise Fund

Tania Holt
Partner, McKinsey & Company

Uzodinma Iweala
Author & Physician

Elizabeth Tanya Masiyiwa
Co-Founder, Simba Education

Patricia Nzolantima
Founder & Chief Executive Officer, XP-COMUNICART, Working Ladies Cab, and Working Ladies Foods & Crafts

Amandla Ooko-Ombaka
Consultant, McKinsey & Company

Ali Osman
Senior Associate, Mubadala Development Company Founder & Managing Director, Galactic Energy Ventures

Fayelle Ouane
Head, Novartis Social Business for West & Central Africa

Yusuf Randera-Rees
Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Awethu Project

Dr. Stella Safo
Physician & Assistant Professor of Medicine, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

David Sengeh
Research Scientist, IBM

Dr. Farai Shonhiwa
Group Strategy Director, Centum Investment Company Limited

Siya Xuza
Founder & Managing Director, Galactic Energy Ventures

Ayanda Sepamla Ballensiefen
Financial Services Risk Consultant



Research & Fellowships

THE HARVARD UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR AFRICAN STUDIES CREATES OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES FOR ACADEMICS, STUDENTS, SCHOLARS, ORGANIZATIONS, AND ANYONE WITH AN INTEREST IN AFRICA-RELATED TOPICS TO LEARN, RESEARCH, AND SHARE KNOWLEDGE RELATED TO AFRICA.

Harvard African Studies Postdoctoral Fellowship Program

In 2015, the Center for African Studies introduced the African Studies Postdoctoral Program to offer professional development and teaching opportunities to promising African postdoctoral candidates. The program was established to supplement Harvard’s mission of advancing teaching and research across the university and to encourage the exchange of new and diverse ideas among academic communities. In the long-term, the Harvard University Center for African Studies Postdoctoral Fellowship Program provides an attractive fellowship opportunity for recent African PhDs who seek academic careers on the African continent.

As the Center’s first postdoctoral fellowship recipients, Grieve Chelwa and Mekonnen Firew Ayano have divided their time between Cambridge, Massachusetts and Johannesburg, South Africa in the pursuit of scholarship and teaching. In the penultimate year of the fellowship, both were based in Johannesburg at the Wits Institute for Economic and Social Research (WISER) at the University of the Witwatersrand.

Grieve Chelwa accepted a position as Lecturer in Economics at UCT’s Graduate School of Business in January 2018. As such, he completed his fellowship one year early. Mekonnen Ayano returned to Cambridge from South Africa in January 2018 and has been in residence at the Center, busily submitting manuscripts for publication and participating in conferences and workshops. He is scheduled to present his work at the African Studies Workshop in November 2018, and then he will also be applying for academic positions in Ethiopia and elsewhere.



Harvard African Studies Visiting Scholars Program

In collaboration with the Committee on General Scholarships, the Center for African Studies is able to host semester-long Visiting Scholars from Africa. In the spring semester, we hosted in residence Dr. Naalamle Amissah from the University of Ghana (Crop Science) and Dr. Rasheed Uthman Owolabi of the University of Lagos (Chemical Engineering). During their time here, they were able to present their work at the Radcliffe Institute in an Accelerator Workshop on “Climate Change, Agriculture, and Health in Africa.” This two-day conference involved presentations from various scholars followed by comments and feedback from Harvard professors and participants.

VISITING SCHOLARS SPRING 2018:

Naalamle Amissah
Rasheed Uthman Owolabi

Harvard South Africa Fellowship Program

Established in 1979, the Harvard South Africa Fellowship Program (HSAFP) invites mid-career professionals who have been historically disenfranchised by laws and resource allocations related to the South African apartheid system to pursue a course of study in one of eight possible programs. Fellowships provide tuition waivers, living stipends, and airfare for one year of study at one of Harvard’s Professional Schools or the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. Participants undergo a rigorous application process and are selected by a panel of esteemed Africanists and Harvard faculty.

2017-18 HSAFP FELLOWS:

Lindani Mabuza,
General Management Program
at Harvard Business School

Seranne Motilal,
Master of Public Health at Harvard
T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Thabo Ncalo,
Program for Leadership Development
at Harvard Business School

Bavesh Pillay,
Master of Law at Harvard
Law School

Priya Singh,
Mid-Career Master in Public
Administration at Harvard
Kennedy School



Research & Fellowships

Harvard Graduate & Undergraduate Research

Through research, language, and experiential grants, CAS expands opportunities for Harvard students to gain experience, in both formal and informal settings. In 2017-18 the Harvard Center for African Studies funded the research, study abroad, and internship activities of more than two dozen students travelling to 12 African countries. Through January term and summer grants, students across the University conduct research throughout Africa.

Research Grants 2017-18

- Gbemisola Abiola: In the Wake of Boko Haram’s Terror: A Study of the Moraland Political Economy of Displacement in Northeastern Nigeria (Nigeria)
- Colleen Brady: New pathways to urban citizenship? The state’s approach in Ghana’s Ministry of Inner City & Zongo Development (Ghana)
- Kelly Brignac: Slavery and Servitude in Senegal: Labor and the “Redemption” of Slaves in Nineteenth-Century French West Africa (Senegal)
- Shelby Carvalho: Education Reform in Ethiopia (Ethiopia)
- Benjamin Cashin: Looking toward the future: Infrastructure and Reconciliation in Post-War Côte d’Ivoire (Côte d’Ivoire)
- Maryanne Chege: The Status of Cancer in Kenya: An Anthropological Study Of People’s Perceptions Towards Cancer (Kenya, Rwanda)
- Silvia Danielak: Rebuilding: A spatialized approach to peacebuilding in post-apartheid Johannesburg (South Africa)
- Jessica Dickson: Co-producing Futures: The Making of “Hollywood’s” Apocalyptic Aesthetic in South Africa (South Africa)
- Sancharz Gore: Technology and Political Change (Zimbabwe)
- Esesua Ikpefan: Popo Aguda: Ethnicity, Identity, Heritage, and Contested Space (Nigeria)
- Cara Jacobson: The effects of male dominance on consortship costs in Kibale olive baboons (Uganda)
- Krystal Klingenberg: The Creation and Distribution of Ugandan Popular Music: Follow-up and Collaborative Editing (Uganda)
- Shelley Liu: Resistance and Control: Statebuilding through Rebel-Civilian Relations (Zimbabwe)
- Tadiwanashe Madenga: Exploring Representations of Intersex Identity in Shona Poetry (Zimbabwe)
- Tsitsi Mangosho: The rise and development of the Black Market Economy in Zimbabwe 1965-2009 (Zimbabwe)
- Terrens Muradzikwa: Impact of Mineral Discovery on Job Opportunities and Fertility Choices in Africa: Evidence from Zimbabwe (Zimbabwe)
- Renugan Raidoo: The evolution of securitization and separation in South Africa’s gated communities (South Africa)
- Sara Surani: The Everyday Politics of Medicine and Modernity in Tanzania (Tanzania)

Student Research Experiences:

“The ability to travel to Accra and speak with local community members and leaders in person proved to be essential for my research, and CAS’s support was invaluable in making connections that would have been impossible to make from across an ocean.”
— Colleen Brady

“During my time in Tanzania I not only grew intellectually by engaging more deeply with my academic interests, but also learned local customs, traditions, and cuisines.”
— Sara Surani

Engagement & Outreach

THE HARVARD UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR AFRICAN STUDIES COLLABORATES
ACROSS CONTINENTS TO SHARE THE CENTER'S RESOURCES AND KNOWLEDGE
WITH AFRICANS AND AFRICANISTS.

HIGHLIGHTS

Africa's Leaders Speak

Africa's Leaders Speak brought former heads of state and government from Cape Verde, Nigeria, and Tanzania to Harvard for a reception, workshop, public forum, and dinner, with contributions from key representatives from the African Export-Import Bank, the Africa America Institute, the African Development Bank, private sector, and academia on April 25th, 2018. Harvard University President Drew Faust, Provost Alan Garber, then President-elect Lawrence Bacow, and Marshal Margot Gill all played roles in the event. HE Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, former president of Tanzania, HE Carlos Veiga, former prime minister of Cape Verde, and HE Olusegun Obasanjo, former president of Nigeria, spoke from their own experiences about the challenges and opportunities in present-day Africa.



Workshop: Transforming Africa in the 21st Century

The closed workshop was held in Nye Auditorium, Harvard Kennedy School. Our keynote speakers presented on agriculture and agribusiness, trade and industry, finance, education and technology, and security and continental integration with Harvard professors, and representatives from the African Export Import Bank, the Africa-America Institute, the African Development Bank, and the private sector responding to the keynote presentations. The workshop acknowledged uneven economic development across Africa with some countries showing robust economic growth and utilizing technologies in innovative ways. In order for Africa to get on board the “train of growth,” coined by a commentator, Africa’s stakeholders need to work together and collectively share ideas as we did at the workshop convened by the Harvard Center for African Studies.

Public Forum: 3rd Annual Hakeem and Myrna Belo-Osagie Distinguished African Business and Entrepreneurship Panel: Public Leadership & Africa's Developmental Agenda

The former heads of state and government came together for the public forum at the JFK Jr Public Forum hosted by the Institute of Politics at the Harvard Kennedy School. The Forum was filled to capacity. Thoko Moyo, Associate Dean for Communications and Public Affairs at the Harvard Kennedy School, moderated the lively conversation between the keynote speakers and members of the audience had the opportunity after their conversation to ask questions. The speakers focused much of their discussion on what they view as the primary responsibilities of African leaders.

Engagement & Outreach: Highlights

Africa-Asia Shanghai Conference

On November 16th - 17th, the Center hosted our first Africa-Asia Conference at the Harvard Center Shanghai in Shanghai, China. The Shanghai conference provided a platform to examine the relationships between Africa and Asia and apply lessons from the past to the future. The theme, Africa-Asia Connections: Bridging Past, Present, and Future, was aimed at broadening the scope of public and scholarly awareness about African experiences and perspectives in the context of historical and current challenges and opportunities. This symposium was to serve as a forum for the creation of a three-way conversation between academics, policymakers, and the private sector. Featured speakers included Celestin Monga, Justin Yifu Lin, Robert Gumede, Takahashi Kitahara, Naohiro Kitano, Edward Boateng, Hakeem Belo-Osagie, and Helen Hai. The Shanghai Conference explored the contemporary Africa-Asia relationship in depth and developed a series of policy recommendations that might bring the two continents closer together for their mutual benefit. Attendees outlined a seven-pronged policy agenda that will make prosperous the Africa-Asia relationship in the 21st century.



Harvard Workshop on African History and Economics

Each year, the Center for African Studies and the Hutchins Center for African and African American Research partner to present the Harvard Workshop on African History and Economics (WAHE). Professor of History and of African and African American Studies and Oppenheimer Faculty Director Emmanuel Akyeampong, and Nathan Nunn, Professor of Economics at Harvard University, serve as facilitators of the conference series. Workshop participants examine African economies from a historical standpoint, honing in on two trends: the development of the 'New Economic History' with its tendency for comparative studies of regional economic performance and a new emphasis on longue durée studies in African history. WAHE creates a dialogue that draws from the research agendas of academic researchers, development experts, policy makers, and African entrepreneurs, while prioritizing graduate research focused on African economics and economic/business history.

WAHE co-sponsored the 7th Annual African Economic History Network (AEHN) meetings held from October 25th – 27th, 2017 at the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS). The conference program included 55 papers, three keynote speakers, and one discussion panel on the topic Innovation and the African past. It was one of the largest and most successful AEHN meetings yet. Participants noted, in particular, the high quality of the presentations, the diversity of themes and contributors, and the excellent keynote addresses.

The annual Laboratory for the Economics of Africa's Past (LEAP) Lecture was held on October 25th to kick off the conference. Emmanuel Akyeampong was the invited keynote and spoke on "African Socialism"; or the Search for an Indigenous Model of Economic Development?." His address was published in the Economic History of Developing Regions.



Engagement & Outreach

Harvard University Center for African Studies Africa Office Events Updates

The Harvard University Center for African Studies launched a continental office in Johannesburg, South Africa last year. The office is Harvard University's first cross-disciplinary area-studies center in Sub-Saharan Africa. The Africa Office works closely with its companion office in Cambridge to facilitate and strengthen relationships with alumni as well as business, cultural, and academic leaders across the African continent

Events include the monthly Pan African Discussion Group (PADG), a series designed to provide participants with an opportunity to delve deeper into social, economic, and political aspects of Africa and the Diaspora. The group meets on a monthly basis, facilitated by Dr. Victoria Collis-Buthelezi of the University of Johannesburg. The group explores a variety of texts, films, and other media as the basis for discussion. Participants are welcome to attend one or all of the sessions outlined for the year according to their interests.



Spotlight

International Criminal Court and Africa Roundtable Dialogue

On September 26, 2017, the Africa Office of the Harvard University Center for African Studies hosted a high-level roundtable on the International Criminal Court (ICC) and Africa in partnership with the Brenthurst Foundation, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, and the High Commission of Canada in South Africa

A diverse set of stakeholders was convened to examine whether the ICC can renew its legitimacy as an entity to protect fundamental human rights and redress crimes against humanity, or if the court will remain a politicized mechanism, increasingly weakened by the perception that it serves the interests of the major powers in a global governance architecture that continues to marginalize Africa?

The forum was prompted by the February 2017 call by the African Union (AU) for a mass withdrawal from the ICC. Though the decision is non-binding, it illustrates the level of frustration among some member states who believe the Court unfairly targets Africans and undermines sovereignty. Yet it also revealed sharp divisions within Africa, with some member states redoubling their commitment to the Court.

CAS and its partner organizations were honored to have, among other participants, Justice Zak Yacoob, an anti-apartheid activist and retired Justice of South Africa's Constitutional Court, as well as Justice Richard Goldstone, also a retired Constitutional Court Justice and the chief prosecutor of the United Nations International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda



Engagement & Outreach

A Year in Review in the Africa Office:



July 17, 2017

Renewable Energy Roundtable featuring Dr. Lawrence E. Jones, Vice-President of International Programs at the Edison Electrical Institute.

The second edition of the Renewable Energy Integration: Practical Management of Variability, Uncertainty, and Flexibility in Power Grids proposes a distilled examination of the intricacies of integrating renewables into power grids and electricity markets. It offers informed perspectives from internationally renowned experts on related challenges and solutions based on demonstrated best practices developed by operators around the world. The book's focus on practical implementation of strategies provides a real-world context for the theoretical underpinnings and the development of supporting policy frameworks.

August 24-26, 2017

Harvard University Alumni Action Forum (Accra, Ghana)

Convened by Kosi Yankey, a Mason Fellow (HKS '16), the Harvard Africa Alumni Action Forum (HAAAF) brings together global thought leaders, development practitioners, politicians, business leaders, alumni, students and friends of Harvard and Africa. The August 2017 Action Forum focused on inspiring participants to re-imagine "Our" Africa and how we envision the future. "Re-imagining Africa: A Call to Action", aimed to initiate conversations, foster relationships and develop recommendations to address challenges that impact various sectors on the continent. Harvard University Center for African Studies Executive Director, Africa Office, Ms. Y. Obenewa Amponsah served as an advisor to the initiative.

September 26, 2017

ICC in Africa: Coming Undone or Poised for Reform?

A high-level roundtable on the International Criminal Court (ICC) and Africa in partnership with the Brenthurst Foundation, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, and the High Commission of Canada in South Africa was convened to examine whether the ICC can renew its legitimacy as an entity to protect fundamental human rights and punish crimes against humanity, or if the court will remain a politicised mechanism, increasingly weakened by the perception that it serves the interests of the major powers in a global governance architecture that continues to marginalise Africa. The participants included Justice Zak Yacoob, Judge Richard Goldstone, scholars and academics from SADC, and CAS Postdoc Fellow Mekonnen Firew Ayano.

November 16, 2017

2017 Year in Review Dialogue

To mark the end of 2017, the Africa Office convened a group of scholars and thought leaders to give insight into the major events in their fields in the past year and how they will shape the world in 2018 and beyond. Discussants who participated were Dr. Mekonnen Firew Ayano, Post-Doctoral Fellow at Harvard (African Development), Ms. Panashe Chigumadzi, founder of Vanguard Magazine (Arts, Culture & Literature), Mr. Akiva Beebe, Center for Creative Leadership (Business & Entrepreneurship in Africa), Ms. Teresa Clarke AB'84, HLS'87, HBS'88, founder of Africa.com (Business & Entrepreneurship in Africa), Mr. Ray Chipendo from Emergent Capital Management (Business & Entrepreneurship in Africa), Dr. Sharron L. McPherson from the Center for Disruptive Technologies (Technology & Innovation), and Dr. Roshini Naidoo, an HSAFP Fellow, MPH'03, HBS'07, from Discovery Health (Health).

January 9, 2018

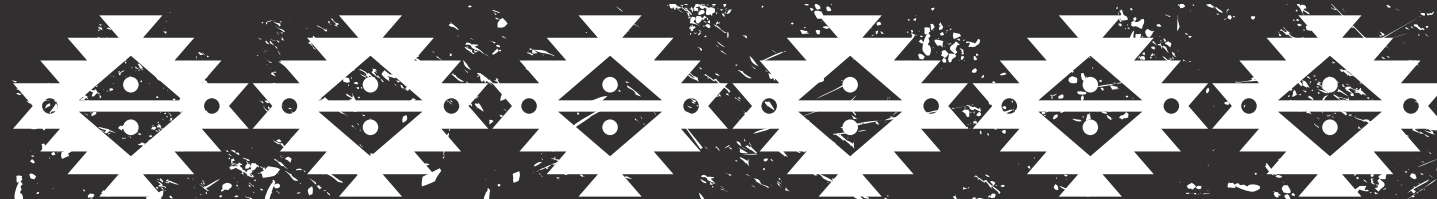
Harvard Alumni Association Global Networking Night

The Harvard Alumni Global Networking Night is a great opportunity for Harvard Alumni to explore and expand their Harvard network. The last event drew more than 8,000 alumni in over 100 cities. This year, the Harvard University Center for African Studies Africa Office co-hosted the event with the Harvard University Alumni Association led by Michelle Montague-Mfuni, HAA Director, Sub-Saharan Africa. The event was attended by about 45 alumni and held at the Southern Sun Hotel in Hyde Park.

January 23, 2018

Pre-Colonial African History Focus Group

A seminar entitled Pre-Colonial African History Focus Group with guests from throughout South Africa and the SADC region, in partnership with the Nelson Mandela Foundation, was held to discuss the histories of South and southern Africa before colonial times and to unpack debates and struggles over land. The focus group undertook a metacritique of the "pre-colonial" to explore the possibilities that exist for shaping a future that breaks from a society that perpetually reproduces social injustices.



A Year in Review in the Africa Office (Continued)

January 24, 2018

Harvard University Alumni Association of South Africa (HUASA) Annual Alumni Affairs General Meeting

The HUASA Annual General Meeting was hosted at the Africa Office. About 25 alumni attended the event where Rev. Frank Chikane, former Commissioner of the first Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) of South Africa, which was responsible for the first democratic elections of 1994, spoke. A former Director General in the Office of the Deputy President and later the Presidency and Secretary of Cabinet gave a keynote address about the state of South African politics following the election of Cyril Ramaphosa as the newly elected president of the governing African National Congress following the party's 54th National Conference in December 2017.

March 20, 2018

Film Screening: Sobukwe: A Great Soul, in commemoration of South Africa's Human Rights Day

Sobukwe: A Great Soul documents the life of Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe, the anti-apartheid activist who led the anti-pass protest of March 21, 1960. When police opened fire on the peaceful protesters, 69 people were killed in what became known as the Sharpeville Massacre. Today, the Sharpeville Massacre is commemorated as Human Rights Day in South Africa. Our guest speaker was Mickey Madoda Dube, Film Director, Sobukwe: A Great Soul.

March 27, 2018

PADG: Excerpt: Thinking Africa Today, Wole Soyinka, Of Africa

Wole Soyinka's Of Africa discusses Africa's wide-ranging issues around culture, religion, history, and identity. Through the book, Soyinka seeks to understand Africa's history in relation to other continents and explore her humanity, environment, and the quality of her existence.

April 12, 2018

PADG: Book Review: Dinaw Mengestu, All our Names

Dinaw Mengestu's novel, All Our Names, is a mournful, mysterious story of an immigrant who goes to the Midwest of the United States on a student visa.

May 2, 2018

Technology & Racism Dialogue

The Harvard University Center for African Studies Africa Office in partnership with the Nelson Mandela Foundation convened a dialogue on Technology & Racism to discuss the intersections of technology (social media, artificial intelligence, biotechnology) and racism, both in South Africa and globally. As the world rapidly changes due to technology, its role is becoming more prominent in the political, criminal justice, and social spheres. However, these technologies may have unintended consequences and complexities far beyond our imaginations. Arguably, these technological tools reproduce the world we currently live in, often replicating the inequalities and injustices.

June 14, 2018

PADG: Book Review: Taiye Selasi, Ghana Must Go

Ghana Must Go recounts the story of a Ghanaian-Nigerian family living in the United States and their individual and collective journeys.



Engagement & Outreach

African Studies Workshop

In its sixth year, the African Studies Workshop at Harvard continued in 2017-18 with another exciting lineup of cutting edge Africanist researchers. This workshop is led by Harvard University professors Jean and John Comaroff and offers both leading and emerging Africanist scholars an opportunity to workshop new materials and publications-in-progress. Discussants are drawn from the Africanist community at Harvard and throughout the Boston area. Students, faculty, and the general public are encouraged to engage in discussion, moderated by the Comaroffs. A comprehensive list of the workshops are shown on page 33, and videos of the workshops are available at www.vimeo.com/harvardafrica.

Spotlight

James Ferguson

On September 11, 2017, James Ferguson presented on “Proletarian Politics Today: From Historical Analogy to Distributive Politics.” He is the Susan S. and William H. Hindle Professor in the School of Humanities and Sciences and Professor in the Department of Anthropology at Stanford University. His research focuses on southern Africa (especially Lesotho, Zambia, South Africa, and Namibia) and engages a broad range of theoretical and ethnographic issues. Elizaveta Fouksman was the discussant.



Tendayi Sithole

On February 26, 2018, Tendayi Sithole presented on “Decolonizing Decolonization: Chinweizu’s Critique of Africa’s Maldevelopment.” Tendayi Sithole is associate professor at the Department of Political Sciences University of South Africa. He is the author of *Steve Biko: Decolonial Meditations of Black Consciousness* (Landham, MD: Lexington Books, 2016). Sebastian Jackson was the discussant.

Joanna Davidson

On March 26, 2018, Joanna Davidson presented on “The Problem of Widows: Making and Unmaking Marriage in Rural West Africa.” She is an Assistant Professor at Boston University. She is a cultural anthropologist whose research interests include cultural conceptions of knowledge, anthropological engagements with development, and the politics of storytelling. Dr. Davidson has conducted ethnographic research in Guinea-Bissau since 1999, where she has focused on rural West Africans’ responses to environmental and economic change. George Meiu was the discussant.

Engagement & Outreach

Islam & Africa Lecture and Conference Series

The Center for African Studies in collaboration with the Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Islamic Studies Program at Harvard University hosts events, lectures, and conferences to explore the role of Islam in African Studies. The series organizes an annual international conference and smaller brown bag lecture series each year around specific research themes.

The Islam in Africa Lecture Brownbag Lecture Series, chaired by Professor Ousmane Kane, aims to trace the rich historical legacy of Islamic culture in Africa as well as to discuss the implications of Islam in a rapidly modernizing and globalizing African continent. This year eight lectures were held under the theme “Critical Perspectives in the Development and Dynamics of Islam in Africa.”

In October 2017, Professor Ousmane Kane convened a conference entitled “New Directions in the Study of Islamic Scholarship.” Drawn from a variety of disciplines including history, Islamic studies, anthropology, philosophy, religious studies, and political science, conference participants explored the literary cultures expressed in the Arabic language or in African languages written with the Arabic script. The majority of conference participants were junior scholars who presented new and ongoing research that has the potential to offer a much needed counter narrative and historical revision of not only Islamic erudition but also African erudition.



A Year in Review in the Cambridge Office:

August 30, 2017

African Languages Program (ALP) Open House gave the Harvard community an opportunity to learn about Harvard’s many African language courses and meet the ALP language instructors.

September 11, 2017

African Studies Workshop featured **James Ferguson** who presented “Proletarian Politics Today: From Historical Analogy to Distributive Politics.”

September 18, 2017

African Studies Workshop featured **Yuka Suzuki** who presented “Cecil the Lion and the Stardom of Charismatic Species.”

September 25, 2017

African Studies Workshop featured **Riina Turtio** who presented “Foreign military aid in building postcolonial states in francophone West Africa 1958-1974.”

October 2, 2017

African Studies Workshop featured **Elizaveta Fouksman** who presented “Universalizing social protection and the moral imperative of labor: Support and resistance from Southern Africa.”

October 5-6, 2017

Islam in Africa Conference: New Directions in the Study of Islamic Scholarship Conference participants explored the literary cultures expressed in the Arabic language or in African languages written with the Arabic script.

October 11, 2017

Africa-Asia Speaker Series CAS hosted its inaugural Africa-Asia Speaker Series, an Africa-Asia Roundtable. The roundtable was titled “Shared Challenges, Shared Opportunities: Healthcare Delivery in Africa and Asia.”

October 12, 2017

Islam in Africa Brown Bag Lecture Series This week’s lecture featured Ousmane Kane, Professor of Islamic Studies at the Harvard Divinity School who presented his ongoing research “Islam and the West African Diaspora in the United States.”

October 17, 2017

African Studies Workshop featured **Lowell Brower** who presented “Once Upon a Time in the Land of ‘Never Again’: Oral Literature in Post-Genocide Rwanda.”

October 18-19, 2017

Islam in Africa Brown Bag Lecture Series This week’s lecture featured Kimberly Wortmann PhD Candidate at Harvard University who presented her PhD research, “Omani Religious Institutions in Contemporary Tanzania.”

October 23, 2017

African Studies Workshop featured **Naana Schneiderman** who presented “Who cooks and who eats? Artists as cultural brokers in Ugandan election campaigns.”

October 26, 2017

All-Harvard Africa Mixer CAS welcomed more than 150 African and Africa enthusiasts from across the University to engage in the fall semester’s meet-and-greet mixer. It was also an opportunity for Africa student group leaders to share the various upcoming events with the broader Harvard community.

October 26, 2017

Student Lunch with Dr. Christian Happi Academic Ventures at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study and the Center for African Studies collaborated together for a student lunch with Dr. Christian Happi, Professor of Molecular Biology and Genomics, Director of the African Center of Excellence for Genomics of Infectious Diseases, and Director of the Directorate of Research Innovations and Partnerships at Redeemer’s University in Nigeria.

October 26, 2017

Islam in Africa Brown Bag Lecture Series This week’s lecture featured Ayodeji Ogunnaike, PhD Candidate at Harvard University, who presented on his PhD research, “Islam, Christianity, and Traditional Religions in Africa.”

October 30, 2017

African Studies Workshop featured **Monica Popescu** who presented “African Literatures, Postcolonial Studies and the Cold War.”

A Year in Review in the Cambridge Office:

November 2, 2017

Africa: Finding and Funding Internships Students heard from their peers about their internship experiences across the African continent as well as how they found and funded their internships.

November 2, 2017

Islam in Africa Brown Bag Lecture Series This week's lecture featured Alex Thurston, Assistant Professor at Georgetown University, who presented "Transnational Terrorist Networks: The Case of Boko Haram."

November 6, 2017

African Studies Workshop featured Cati Coe who presented "Beyond Kin Care: Openness to New Age Scripts in Southern Ghana."

November 6-7, 2017

Agriculture, Nutrition, Health, and the Environment in Africa Center for African Studies, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, and Harvard Kennedy School brought together leaders, scientists, and students for a conference to highlight the intersection of nutrition and health, agriculture, and the environment in Africa toward solving complex health and development challenges.

November 9, 2017

Student group discussion with Phiona Mutesi (Subject of Queen of Katwe) The African Food and Peace Foundation's annual dinner and fundraiser featured keynote speakers Phiona Mutesi and Robert Katende, the subjects of the Disney film Queen of Katwe. CAS hosted a separate lively student discussion with Phiona and Mutesi.

November 9, 2017

Islam in Africa Brown Bag Lecture Series This week's lecture featured Sarah Eltantawi, Assistant Professor of Comparative Religion at Evergreen State College, presenting "Shariah on the Trial: The Reenactment of Islamic Penal Law in Nigeria."

November 13, 2017

African Studies Workshop featured Helene Neveu Kringelbach who presented "Love and family across borders: the Senegalese experience."

November 16, 2017

Islam in Africa Brown Bag Lecture Series This week's lecture featured Darren Kew, Associate Professor at the University of Massachusetts, presenting "Intra- and inter-faith peace building during a time of insurgency: Finding Consensus Among Muslims in Nigeria."

November 16-17, 2017

Shanghai Conference on Africa and Asia This year's Africa and Asia conference was hosted in Shanghai, China. The conference was entitled "Africa-Asia Connections: Bridging Past, Present, and Future."

November 27, 2017

African Studies Workshop featured Shireen Hassim who presented "Liminality, identity, and the politics of race in South Africa: Fatima Meer and black consciousness."



A Year in Review in the Cambridge Office:

November 29, 2017

Director's Seminar featured Ebrima Sall "From the 'Arab Spring' to '#gambiahadecided': African youth (re)negotiating citizenship and creating futures". A talk featuring Dr. Ebrima Sall, the executive director at Trust Africa and former visiting fellow at the Center for African Studies.

November 30, 2017

Islam in Africa Brown Bag Lecture Series This week's lecture featured Sana Camara, Professor of French at Truman State University, presenting "Sheikh Ahmadu Bamba and the Poetics of Exile."

January 16, 2018

Vice President of Nigeria, Yemi Osinbajo Visit, Discussion, and Reception The Vice President of Nigeria visited the Center's new space. We hosted a roundtable discussion with professors from Harvard and other neighboring universities.

January 25, 2018

Summer Programs Information Session Students came to learn more about the Center's various summer programs from our Student Support and Outreach Officer and students who participated in our internship programs in previous years.

January 29, 2018

African Studies Workshop featured Kenda Mutongi who presented "Reading under the Covers: The

History of Schooling in Kenya."

February 5, 2018

African Studies Workshop featured Kristin Doughty who presented "Converting Threats to Power: Methane Extraction on Lake Kivu."

February 12, 2018

African Studies Workshop featured David Amponsah who presented "Enchanted Geography: India in the West African Popular Imagination"

February 14, 2018

Discussion and Reception with the United States International University - Africa The Center hosted a discussion and reception for visiting students from Kenya. Harvard College students led a lively panel session and answered questions students had.

February 22, 2018

All-Harvard Africa Mixer The Center welcomed over 100 Africans and Africa enthusiasts from across the University for the Spring semester's meet and greet.

February 26, 2018

African Studies Workshop featured Tendayi Sithole who presented "Decolonizing Decolonization: Chinweize Critique of Africa's Maldevelopment."

March 2-4, 2018

20th Annual Harvard Africa Business Conference The Center sponsors the Harvard Business School Africa Business Club's annual African Business Conference - the largest student-run conference on African business in the world. This year's theme was "Values and Value Chains: Africa in a New Global Era."

A Year in Review in the Cambridge Office:

March 5, 2018

African Studies Workshop featured **Sindiso Mnisi-Weeks** who presented "Disempowering Rights: The Unintended Consequences of Rights Discourse(s) in South Africa's Legal Culture Clash."

March 19, 2018

African Studies Workshop featured **Julie Kleinman** who presented "Freedoms to Circulate: Rethinking Borders and Belonging through West African Mobility."

March 22, 2018

Careers in Africa

The Center hosted a panel of individuals with experience in Africa that followed with a networking mixer giving the students the opportunity to discuss experiences in Africa. This event was in collaboration with the Office of Career Services, Harvard African Student Association, and Harvard Africa Business Investment Club.

March 22-24, 2018

9th Annual Africa Development Conference The Center sponsors the Africa Development Conference. ADC explores creative and collaborative approaches to opportunities and challenges in Africa, while emphasizing the enduring and dynamic concept of Pan-Africanism. This year's theme was "Our Time, Our Vision: Wielding Africa's Potential for Sustainable Growth."

March 26, 2018

African Studies Workshop featured **Joanna Davidson** who presented "The Problem of Widows: Making and Unmaking Marriage in Rural West Africa."

April 2, 2018

African Studies Workshop featured **Anooradha Iyer Siddiqi** who presented "Domesticating the Margins in East Africa: Re-examining the Construction of the East African Borderland between present day Kenya/Somalia/Ethiopia through a history of modern territorial formation, settlement, and architecture."

April 9, 2018

African Studies Workshop featured **Lauren Coyle** who presented "Spectral Laws of Gold in Ghana."

April 16, 2018

African Studies Workshop featured **Daniel Smith** who presented "Every Household is its own Local Government. Informal Economies and Entrepreneurial Infrastructure in Nigeria."

April 23, 2018

African Studies Workshop featured **Adam Habib** who presented "#FeesMustFall and the Advancement of Social Justice."



A Year in Review in the Cambridge Office:

April 24, 2018

Annual Africa Advisory Board and Leadership Council Meetings The Center hosted its annual Africa Advisory Board and Leadership Council meeting. Faculty of Arts and Sciences' Social Science Dean Claudine Gay, Harvard Vice Provost for International Affairs Mark Elliott, and Harvard University Marshal Margot Gill attended and interacted with the board.

April 25, 2018

The Center for African Studies hosted a reception, workshop, public forum, and dinner for the keynote speakers: Former President HE Jakaya Kikwete of Tanzania; Former President HE Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria; and Former Prime Minister HE Carlos Veiga of Cape Verde. This event was in collaboration with the Hutchins Center, Center for Public Leadership and the Institute of Politics.

April 30, 2018

Africa-Asia Speaker Series

The featured speaker was Jamie Monson, Director of the African Studies Center, Co-Director of the Alliance for African Partnership, and Professor of History at Michigan State who spoke on "Futures in the Past of Africa-China Engagement."

May 7-8, 2018

Accelerator Workshop

The Center collaborated with the Harvard Institute for Global Health for a Radcliffe Institute Accelerator Workshop on "Climate Change, Agriculture, and Health in Africa." The Center's visiting scholars Naalamle Amissah and Owolabi Rasheed both presented their own research and heard feedback from professors and attendees.

May 23, 2018

African and African American Studies Department Graduation Party The Center for African Studies, Hutchins Center, and AAAS celebrated students concentrating in African and African American Studies and recognized exceptional students with awards.

May 26, 2018

Alumni Open House Reception

The Center opened its doors to the alumni back on campus for their reunions. It was an opportunity to share our latest work and network with alumni - both returning and new.

Engagement & Outreach

Summer Workshop for Educators

Collaborating with other international centers at Harvard University, the Harvard University Center for African Studies supports an annual four-day intensive summer workshop for middle school, high school, and community college educators in the Greater Boston area.

The 2017 workshop, attended by 39 educators, focused on cities and our urbanizing world. The workshop invited participants to discover how cities developed over the world and how the rise of urbanization affect rural areas. CAS sponsored the participation of Africa experts at the conference, including David Cook, Architectural Designer at William Pevear Architects, who presented on his experience in Benin investigating the societal relationships between the “formal” city of Cotonou and its neighboring “informal” settlement of Akpakpa-Dodomey and the lake-village settlement of Ganvie.



Some of our teachers' feedback from the conference:

- “The intentional use of thinking routines throughout the workshop to invite us to reflect and show our learning, too, not just as teachers, but as curious citizens of our own world and active participants in it, was appreciated.”
- “I loved the learning group, felt really comfortable sharing ideas in a group that remained constant. I loved the diversity of the speakers and their authority on specific topics.”
- “The workshop reestablished an excitement in teaching for me. Harvard gave us an opportunity to work with a diverse group of learners, researchers, and educators that most institutions could never offer.”



Engagement & Outreach

Roxbury Community College Partnership

For the 5th year, the Center for African Studies partnered with Roxbury Community College (RCC) to provide an internship for RCC students to work at the Widener Library and explore the library resources. In 2017, Tadjah Polynice joined us for an internship at Widener Library to assist Bassey Irele, Librarian for Sub-Saharan Africa. The internship provided professional experience and general exposure to librarianship in an academic library.

RCC faculty, including Kevin Aylmer, Nasreen Latif, Mark Jackson, Chiso Okafor, Edward Olukon, Gilda Sharpe Etteh, and Peter Mulumba, participated in a wide range of Africa-related events at Harvard in 2017-18 including the Summer Teacher's Workshop.

Globalizing the Classroom Fellowship

Each year, the Center for African Studies at Harvard collaborates with the Harvard Graduate School of Education's Project Zero to develop Globalizing the Classroom, a professional development program for high school and community college educators. The program encourages educators to integrate global competencies into their classroom teaching by supervising the development of international content using Project Zero's pedagogical framework.

Crimson Summer Academy Film Screening

To reach younger audiences directly, the Center for African Studies organizes an annual film screening at the Crimson Summer Academy, a program for talented and highly motivated Boston-area high school students who take summer classes on Harvard's campus. The Center selects films that challenge stereotypes and misconceptions about Africa. In 2018, the Center screened Marvel's Black Panther, the leader of a fictional African nation called Wakanda with super human powers. Ata Amponsah, a Harvard College student, led the discussion after the film screening.



INSPIRE

In June 2018, CAS welcomed the second cohort of INSPIRE students. The goal of INSPIRE is to unlock the potential of Africa's brightest and most capable youth. INSPIRE aims to make the possibility of attending Harvard or other major research universities imaginable for students who would otherwise consider it beyond their reach. INSPIRE brings talented, disadvantaged high school juniors and seniors from South Africa to Harvard's two-week Pre-College Summer Program. The rigorous academic program is coupled with extra-curricular activities designed to give participants a taste of the Harvard experience. INSPIRE pairs each student with a Harvard undergraduate mentor who can serve as a guide through the process of applying to college or university.

INSPIRE Student Experience:

Monica Coetzee
Grade 11, Hoerskool Noordheuwel, South Africa
Course on Comparative Biomechanics and Physiology: Designing Insect-Inspired Gliders

"I perceived new ideas and perspectives and met many fascinating people from diverse backgrounds. The program is incredible."



Student Programs

THE HARVARD UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR AFRICAN STUDIES SUPPORTS PROGRAMS THAT FOSTER STUDENT AND FACULTY ENGAGEMENT WITH THE CONTINENT, ENCOURAGING INTERDISCIPLINARY UNDERSTANDINGS OF AFRICA.

Harvard African Languages Program

With over 2000 languages, Africa is home to nearly one-third of the world's languages. Harvard's African Language Program (ALP) is one of the largest language programs in the world. The ALP boasts some of the most innovative foreign language-learning pedagogy. Led by John Mugane, Professor of the Practice of African Languages and Cultures and Director of the ALP, Harvard has taught a total of 45 languages averaging 24 different African languages in any given semester. Academic Year 2017-18 has seen the largest enrollments on record with 500 students taking Africana language courses this past year alone, totaling close to 100 courses, including Afrikaans, Hausa, Lingala, Tigrinya, Amharic, Igbo, Pulaar, Twi, Bemba, Gullah, Jamaican Patois, Setswana, West African Pidgin, Chichewa, Kikongo, Somali, Wolof, Fon, Gikuyu, Sudanese Arabic, Yoruba, Haitian Creole, Kinyarwanda, Swahili and Zulu.

Student Programs

Maru-a-Pula Summer Internship Program

Harvard's relationship with the Maru-a-Pula school began in 2008, when Daniel Liss '11, interned at Maru-a-Pula (MaP) during the summer before his sophomore year. As a former student of MaP's principal, Andrew Taylor, Daniel found that he could make an impact on the students while also having a life-changing immersion experience. In collaboration with Mr. Taylor, Daniel wrote a proposal for an ongoing internship program, through which Harvard students could teach and tutor at MaP for eight weeks every summer.

In 2010, Daniel approached Harvard's Center for African Studies about housing the MaP program within its program portfolio. That same year, James Rothenberg made a generous gift to Harvard to support summer experiences in Africa for undergraduate students.

Spotlight: Genevieve Lefevre '19

"I was able to have a life changing experience in Gaborone, Botswana through the Center for African Studies at Harvard. Thanks to you, I was able to explore a new part of the world, and experience new cultures and cuisines. Because of the grant, I was able to spend time in Gaborone, but also in Namibia and Zimbabwe. I learned new languages and saw three incredibly beautiful countries. This truly was a once in a lifetime experience that I will cherish in my memories forever.

I spent the majority of my time away at the Maru-a-Pula School. I assisted with French, music, drama, and their health/skills class. The interns also helped the older students with SAT and college preparations. Living at the school allowed me to be a constant resource for the students, whether that meant helping with their homework or being someone to talk to about what they might be going through at that time.

Being able to see the students both in and out of the classroom allowed me to form meaningful relationships with them, and I still keep in contact with many of the students through Facebook and WhatsApp. Bonds formed between people who would not have been able to meet without your help. Thanks to you, the world has grown a little more connected. After coming back to the States, I still am reading and editing essays and giving advice on any questions I receive. I also still get to hear about what's going on in people's lives and what things they are accomplishing."

SUMMER 2017 INTERNS:

Ruiqi He '19
Brian Lai '19
Haley Langan '18
Genevieve Lefevre '19



Student Programs

Lebone College Summer Program

The program pairs Harvard undergraduates interested in teaching and mentorship with high school students at the Lebone II College in Phokeng, South Africa, where they spend eight fully-funded weeks living and working alongside Lebone students.



Spotlight: Benjamin Sorkin '20

"There are so many ways to describe what this summer at Lebone has been like: inspiring, rewarding, challenging, eye-opening. And yet, it feels as though none of these words adequately encapsulate all that this summer has shown me and done for me. Lebone is a special place, one that I wish I could share with so many people, and I hope to bring little pieces of it wherever I go.

I applied to the Lebone II Internship Program because of an interest in education, teaching, and specifically boarding and independent schools. Having attended New York City public schools my entire life, the world of private and independent schooling was not something I had much exposure to before Harvard. Africa, and specifically South Africa, was far outside of my comfort zone or knowledge background. Being imbedded in the community of Phokeng was an amazing experience that really humanized this foreign place and made me feel less like a travelling visitor and more like a welcomed member of the community. In this setting, I was able to learn about a region and a country not from panels on the wall at a museum or from a book but from real individuals who have shaped and been shaped by the community around them.

Lebone showed me a real life example of an institution embracing and simultaneously grappling with its ties to the community, which proved to be an extremely thought provoking case study that made me reexamine my own relationships with my community at school and at home."

SUMMER 2017 INTERNS:

Nicholas Maxwell '19
Benjamin Sorkin '20



Harvard University Center for African Studies Staff

Staff

Harvard University Center for African Studies staff operate in Cambridge, Massachusetts and Johannesburg, South Africa. The team works across continents to coordinate programming, events, manage the Center's programs and fellowships and facilitate connections between Harvard faculty and students across the professional schools.

Highlight: The Dean's Distinction Award

On March 8th, 2018, the annual Harvard Dean's Distinction Award was presented to the Harvard Center for African Studies by Dean Michael Smith, Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS). The award honors Harvard University's highest-achieving FAS staff members whose accomplishments have significantly enhanced and extended collaborations across the University.

CAS was recognized for working collaboratively across continents to successfully launch the first Harvard University Center in Sub-Saharan Africa last May, positioning the University to deepen partnerships with African scholars and institutions while strengthening ties with Harvard alumni living in Africa.

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