

**BOSTON  
UNIVERSITY**

African Studies Newsletter



**Inside: 60<sup>th</sup> Celebration Redux**

Former director and keynote speaker James Pritchett and founding faculty member Adelaide Cromwell graced the 60<sup>th</sup> celebration banquet with profound thoughtfulness and charm. Enjoy photos from the banquet and symposium and more inside.

**Updates**

Alumni, faculty and student updates on life, research and work along with a few centered-related anecdotes. African Studies Library and Outreach updates too.

**African Studies Joins the Pardee School**



**New Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies Opens with Initiative to Advance Human Progress**

Opening in Fall 2014 the Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies is Boston University's newest initiative to advance human progress. The African Studies Center joins seven other area and thematic studies centers to create the school's Division of Regional

Studies.

The Pardee School leverages the University's existing strengths in international and area studies to reach new levels. The School,

**Pardee, cont'd on page 6**

**Rescheduled Walter Rodney Seminars Spring 2015**

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**Friday, April 17  
Robin Wolfe Scheffler (MIT/AAAS)  
"From Tropical Disease to Molecular Cancer: The Global Politics of Biomedical Research, 1958-1978"**

**Friday, April 24  
Diana Wylie (BU)  
"Part of who we are": Historic Preservation in North Africa"**

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African Studies Center Newsletter  
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Nikki Agba, Igbo Lecturer  
Dr. Telahun Gebrehiwot, Amharic  
Lecturer

### Newsletter Staff

Karl Haas  
We welcome our faculty, alumni, and  
students to send us updates and news.

Please send updates to the African  
Studies Center for our Fall 2015  
Newsletter by September 15, 2015.



## Note from the Director

### Title VI Grant Renewed for 2014-18 Cycle: How it impacts Center Strategy

#### Timothy Longman, Director

At the African Studies Center, we take pride in our long and storied history. Our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our record of supporting research and teaching on Africa. We reconnected with many alumni, whose success in diverse academic and professional careers demonstrates the historic strength of our program and its impact on Africa and beyond.

Fortunately, a stream of recent awards demonstrates the success of our ongoing work. We received word in September that the ASC had once again been selected as a National Resource Center for Africa in the Department of Education's Title VI program. Despite the competitive financial environment, our funding for NRC and the Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship program was substantially increased.

This funding will allow us not only to provide scholarships to graduate and undergraduate students but also to continue to develop curricular materials for African languages. We plan to add Twi to our language repertoire, and we also hope to develop specialized language courses for public health. The funding will

allow us to develop new partnerships with universities in Africa and to support the creation of new study abroad opportunities on the continent. We will develop a partnership with the University of Massachusetts-Boston, the largest local minority-serving institution.

The strength of our program is demonstrated by the success of our students in receiving outside funding. In the past two years, five doctoral students have received Fulbright-Hays awards and three have received Fulbright fellowships to conduct fieldwork. These students all took African languages. Coming from the disciplines of anthropology, history, history of art and architecture, and ethnomusicology, they are conducting research in Ghana, Uganda, Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa, and Lesotho. Other students have received Graduate Research Abroad Fellowships for projects in Angola and Egypt. A recent international relations graduate also received an undergraduate Fulbright for research in Niger.

Our faculty members also continue to receive awards. History professor Diana Wylie spent the past year on a Fulbright studying historic preservation in Morocco. Faculty in public health have received awards from the Centers for Disease Control, the Gates Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and other funders to conduct research in a number of African countries. (Can you believe that BU employs 350 people in Zambia in public health projects?)

In short, BU continues its strong African studies tradition. Our recent inclusion in the Pardee School helps to raise our profile even further and opens up exciting new opportunities for cross-regional teaching and research. The ASC is taking a leadership role in helping to strengthen BU's programs focused on other parts of the world, without compromising our strong Africa focus. We look forward to continued growth and continued success for our students, faculty, and alumni. Thank you all for your support over the years!



## Donations enrich anthropology & art history

Two donations of artifacts from Kenya provide the opportunity to enrich our African studies classrooms. Anne Beaman (Anthropology '81) and Caroline Henderson of Brookline, Massachusetts, donated numerous objects collected while living and working in Kenya in the 1960s and 70s. The photo to the far left shows Ann Beaman with her host mother while doing her dissertation research in Eastern Province, Kenya among Rendille communities. The photo to the left shows Ann today holding one of the items donated.

## Faculty & Visiting Researcher News

The *Campaign* for **Boston University** | **CHOOSE TO BE GREAT**

\*To donate to the African Studies Center go to the Giving tab on our website <http://bu.edu/africa>

**Kathryn A. Bard (Archaeology)** has published the second edition of her book, *An Introduction to the Archaeology of Ancient Egypt*, from Wiley Blackwell. She has also been appointed to the advisory board of the "Journal of Egyptian Archaeology," which has been published for 100 years by the Egypt Exploration Society (London).

**Dan Connell**, visiting scholar in the ASC, has published "From Sinai to Lampedusa: An Eritrean Journey" in *Middle East Report Online*.

**Jeanne Koopman**, longtime visiting researcher, presented the paper, "Capitalism, Patriarchy, and African Women Farmers" at the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual conference of the International Association for Feminist Economics held in Accra, Ghana 27-29 June 2014. She is conducting exploratory field research in Senegal on quantifying rural livelihoods

in the context of debates and village struggles against land grabs, and on quantifying the impact on food production and rural incomes of agro-ecological production methods that have been promoted for several years by a Senegalese NGO, ENDA-PRONAT.

**Robert E.B. Lucas (Economics)** has edited the *International Handbook on Migration and Economic Development*, in which he has also written the introduction and chapter "The Migration-Trade Link in Developing Economies: A

**Faculty & Visiting cont'd on page 5**



2015 DACB Conference

**African Christian Biography: Narratives, Beliefs, and Boundaries.**

October 29-31, 2015



## Have Your Heard From Johannesburg?

Lynne Cooney  
PhD candidate, History of Art and Architecture

### Since September 2014, I have been living in Johannesburg, South Africa

on a Fulbright Fellowship conducting research towards my doctoral dissertation in contemporary African art through the Department of the History of Art and Architecture at Boston University. I have found Johannesburg to be a chaotic and challenging city that can be difficult, at times, to fully comprehend. To me, the city is constantly moving and driven by the energy of young, creative people. I came to Johannesburg interested in how Johannesburg-based artists are responding to the complexity and the multiple dimensions of the city. My original research proposal was to look at contemporary art in Johannesburg and consider the ways in which artists were constructing their identities in the context of a transforming metropolis. For the first month and a half, I focused on public art projects and artist-run exhibition spaces, as well as the work of individual artists and collectives. I spent time interviewing artists and attending exhibitions and events.

cont'd on page 10



### What can I say of my first four months in Lesotho? It has been very productive, reasonably smooth, challenging, humbling, and stimulating.

My archive experiences at Roma and Maseru included some typical folly. “We can’t get that file because the lights are broken downstairs, can you come back tomorrow?” I insisted that I could help with my phone light and subsequently brought my headlamp to mitigate the problem. And yes, the light was still out the last time I visited the archives back in November. The cataloguing is another story altogether. It will be nice to be at Morija Arts & Cultural Museum where I can physically browse the materials on my own. Several of the boxes that I went through seem to have been untouched since someone stuffed the papers into files sometime before independence, but, the files are there even if with big gaps.

cont'd on page 13

### Meet me at the Senqu - Negotiating Environmental Knowledge in Lesotho

Christopher Conz, PhD Candidate, History

## Student News

**Lara Ayad**, Art History, is working on mid-20th century representations of women in avant garde Egyptian painting made before, during, and after the Revolution of 1952. Her work addresses the use of pre-Pharaonic artistic elements to renegotiate modern Egyptian identity, shifting gender roles, ethnic marginalization, and class disparities in Egypt. Lara is currently in Egypt conducting research, funded by the BU Graduate Research Abroad Fellowship (GRAF).

**Christopher Konz** is a PhD candidate in the Department of History, working on the environmental history of Lesotho and southern Africa. Specifically, he is interested in the historical interaction of knowledge systems, agrarian change, and rural development. He has also developed a minor field in anthropology and will be in Lesotho conducting dissertation research for the 2014-2015 academic year, funded by a Fulbright Student Award.

**Lynne Cooney**, PhD student in African art history, is a recent recipient of a Fulbright Student Award. She will spend this coming academic year in Johannesburg, South Africa researching contemporary art in that city. Her work is profiled on page 4.

**Abel Djassi Amado** is a PhD Candidate in Political Science. His doctoral dissertation analyzes the impact of language policy on the quality of democracy in Sub-Saharan Africa. Abel is also interested in (and has written on) politics of colonialism and decolonization, contemporary African political thought and post-colonial politics in Portuguese Speaking African Countries (PALOP).

Students, cont'd on page 10

## Alumni News

**Arianna Huhn, PhD Anthropology 2013**, will be starting as an assistant professor and director of the Anthropology Museum at Cal State San Bernardino in fall 2015. Her second child, Corinne Ellis Huhn, was born 10/3/14.

**Jeanne Marie Penvenne, M.A 1974, PhD History 1982**, associate professor of history at Tufts University, has a book on the way. *Women, Migration and the Cashew Economy in Mozambique, 1945 to 1975* will be published in 2015 by James Currey Press, an imprint of Boydell and Brewer Ltd. in the UK.

She has also just completed three terms on the Editorial Advisory Board of the Journal of African History, and has been appointed to the Editorial Advisory Board of the *International Journal of African Historical Studies*, beginning January 2015.

**Jonathan Reynolds, PhD History 1995**, received the Northern Kentucky University Milburn Outstanding Professor Award for 2014.

**Jo Sullivan, GRS History 1978**, recently donated her personal research notes, articles, documents, and conference papers to the Liberia Collections Project at Indiana University, and her personal collection of African commemorative cloths to the Newark (NJ) Museum, which has a collection of these cloths.

### Faculty & Visiting cont'd from page 3

Summary and Extension of Evidence". He also published the chapter "African Migration", in *The Handbook on the Economics of International Migration*, Barry R. Chiswick and Paul W. Miller, (ed.),

Elsevier Science, 2014.

**Ellen Messer**, instructor in the Gastronomy Program at BU, has published "Food, Conflict, and Human Rights: Accounting for Structural Violence," the final chapter in *Food in Zones of Conflict: Cross-Disciplinary Perspectives* (2014), edited by Paul Collinson and Helen Macbeth, published by Berghahn.

**Susanne Mueller** had two new articles published in 2014. "The resilience of the past: government and opposition in Kenya," in the Canadian Journal of African Studies, Vol. 14, No. 2, and "Kenya and the International Criminal Court (ICC): Politics, The Election and The Law," in the Journal of Eastern African Studies, vol. 8, no. 1.

**Donna A. Patterson**, assistant professor of Africana Studies at Wellesley College and visiting researcher in the ASC, recently published *Pharmacy in Senegal: Gender, Healing and Entrepreneurship*, released January 2015 by IUP.

**Daivi Rodima-Taylor** continued her research of African informality, co-editing a special section, "*Mutual Help in an Era of Uncertainty*," that appeared in *Africa 84*, 2014. Daivi's article "Passageways of Cooperation: *Mutual Help in Post-socialist Tanzania*" examined the complex an uneven formalization of local economic groups and institutions of community policing, exploring their impacts on local value conversions, work patterns, and political authority. Her article in *Social Analysis* (57) compared

Faculty & Visiting cont'd on page 14

Pardee, cont'd from page 1

endowed by a \$25 million gift from Frederick S. Pardee (SMG'54, GSM'54, Hon.'06), will educate the next generation of global leaders by bringing together faculty from across Boston University to support uniquely interdisciplinary teaching, research, and outreach aimed at the great challenge of improving the human condition around the world.

Housed within the College of Arts & Sciences and the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, the Pardee School consists of two divisions: International Studies and Regional Studies, combining under one roof the University's International Relations program and various areas studies programs and centers, such as the African Studies Center, the Center for the Study of

Europe, the Latin American Studies Program, the Center for the Study of Asia, the Institute for the Study of Muslim Societies & Civilizations, and the new Middle East & North Africa Studies Program.

The Pardee School approach to education and research transcends the boundaries that separate academic departments and programs. Our research and education weave together the strands of social science, natural science, and humanities methods and insights to create more integrated knowledge. Our education aims to produce globally competent citizens in all walks of life and professional specialists and leaders in international affairs. Our work is academic and engaged, grounded in a deep understanding of the past, a rigorous analysis of the present, and an unwavering commitment to a better future.



## Memories of the African Studies Center on the Occasion of its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

*From Professor Elizabeth Colson, BU Faculty '55-'59*

Elizabeth Florence Colson is Professor Emeritus of Anthropology at the University of California, Berkeley. Her work in anthropology addresses politics, religion, social organization, social change, migration, anthropological history and theory, and the ethnography of Africa and North America. Dr. Colson is best known for her ongoing fieldwork with the Gwembe Tonga of Zambia, which began in 1956 through the Rhodes-Livingstone Institute as a controlled study of the social change caused by forced resettlement. All of Colson's work is solidly anchored in ethnography, and through it she has made theoretical contributions to the sub-disciplines of applied, development, and political anthropology.

I am sending a brief message so as to be part of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the African Studies Center.

I have vivid memories of its early days. I think that of the various people who were part of the Center when I was there, only Adelaide Cromwell and I are still around. I hope she was able to attend and remind people of a very good period when it was exciting to be in African studies.

I live here on a farm a few miles north of Monze where I had a house built in 2004. The rains right here and in the villages immediately to the east of us have been disappointing and we are now at the end of the rainy season. Lots of interesting things are happening in Zambia. Towns and cities are exploding as everyone seems intent on acquiring land on which they are building. This is in part to have a place to retire to, given that it is now difficult to get land back in villages, and many now have no village to go back to. Shops are full of goods and people obviously have money with which to buy what are after all luxuries. Cell phones are everywhere, including in remote villages where you find empowering solar panels sitting beside thatch huts. Large numbers of used cars are being imported from Japan, which means the roads are crowded between them and the many enormous lorries bringing in freight. So, a lot is interesting but I am not trying to write anything though I continue to read.

My best wishes, EC

EC - 2014



# 60<sup>th</sup> Celebration Redux

The African Studies Center celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary last March in style in the classically appointed Metcalf Trustee Ballroom at 1 Silber Way. The three-course banquet capped off a month-long series of events and brought together more than two hundred fifty alumni, students, faculty, administrators, emerita, and community members. The mellifluous sounds of Albino Mbie, a jazz artist from Mozambique, enriched the tone of the evening. Showcasing the intellectual synergies of communities at BU, the celebration also included attendees of the concurrently running conference “African American Music in World Culture” and numerous librarians from the Annual Meeting of the Africana Librarians Association.

One of many highlights of the night was the keynote address by former director of BU’s African Studies Center, James Pritchett, in which he urged a reframing of the history of African studies in the United States to include the contributions of Reformation Era African American scholars. His theme seemed particularly well received by the audience and reflective of the synergies at work in the celebration.

Other highlights included the attendance by Adelaide Cromwell, one of the Center’s founding faculty members and the former Prime Minister of Kenya, Raila Odinga, who was then in residence at the African Presidential Center.

The banquet was followed the next day with a symposium titled “Africa Rising? The Role of African Studies in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”. It featured presentations by current faculty members Tim Longman (Political Science), Parker Shipton (Anthropology) and Susie Foster (SPH), and alumni Jeanne Penvenne (’82 History), Marc Sommers (’94 Anthropology) and Jane Parpart (’80 History).



Alison Blakely, Adelaide Cromwell, Pearl Robinson, James McCann



Albino Mbie performing from his new album *Mozambican Dance*.

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*\*To donate to the African Studies Center go to the Giving tab on our website <http://bu.edu/africa>*

Photos of the  
60<sup>th</sup>  
Celebration



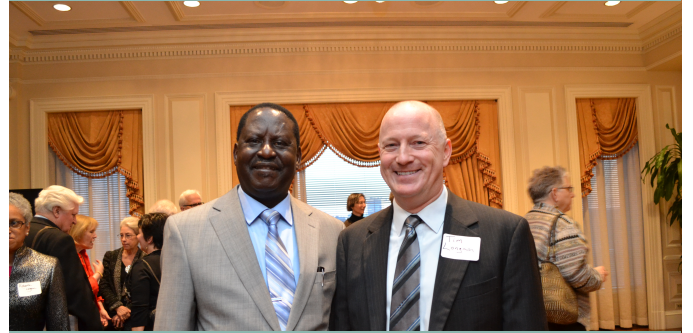
Douglas Wheeler ('63 History) and Katherine Wells Wheeler



Emilie Songolo (UW-Madison) and Odile Cazenave (Romance Studies)



Sue Hickey and John Harris (Economics)



Former Kenyan Prime Minister, Raila Odinga and Director Tim Longman



Current graduate students Lily Havstad, Kristen Carey, Chris Conz, and Zach Gersten

Photos from "Africa Rising? The Role of African Studies in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century"



Barbara Brown and Jane Parpart



Beth Restrick, Casi Kadangs, Walter Sangree, Polly Steele, Tom Johnson, Parker Shipton



Susie Foster (SPH), Jeanne Penvenne (Hist. '82)





Lelesgo Malepe ('95 Political Science) and the 1994 National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Workshop for Teachers



Jean Hay, Jane Guyer, Jennifer Yanco, John Hutchison



James Pritchett, Barbara Brown, James McCann, Edna G. Bay ('77 History)



Diana Wylie, Fallou Ngom, Birane Gassama, James McCann



Jean Hay



Rachel Dwyer, Beth Restrick, David Westley, Loumona Petroff

## BU African Studies Over the Years

As part of the 60<sup>th</sup> celebration activities and, in an effort to raise awareness on campus of the African Studies Center's long and valuable history, over 400 photos and images were collected from a variety of sources and put together and showcased in a number of venues. The collage in the shape of Africa was on display at the African Studies Library. At the banquet, the photos rotated in a slideshow on a flat screen TV. Here are some highlights of that collection.



Adelaide Cromwell

He is a part-time faculty member at Boston College and the University of Rhode Island, where he teaches African Politics and Politics of Race.

**Sarah Dorman**, master's candidate in International Relations, received a Pardee Center Graduate Research Travel Grant to conduct NGO interviews on the development of e-education in sub-Saharan Africa.

**Zachary Gersten** received his MPH in January 2015, concentrating in Global Health and African Studies at the BU School of Public Health. His research interests include the application of Lean Management to healthcare organizations operating in low-resource settings and using local languages, scripts, health vocabulary, and health epistemology to improve global health education programs.

**Karl Haas** is a fourth-year PhD candidate in Ethnomusicology writing his dissertation on traditional music and masculinity in urban West Africa. Supported by grants and fellowships from Tufts University, the BU GRAF, WARA, and Fulbright-Hays DDRA, he has been researching music and oral history with Dagbamba warriors in Tamale, Ghana since 2006.

**Mustapha Hashim Kurfi**, PhD candidate in sociology and Hausa Senior Teaching Fellow, is currently in Nigeria conducting fieldwork. Over the past year, he has engaged in several activities and projects that contributed to the success of the ASC, including writing a pioneer Hausa-Ajami Workbook; completing the Nigerian

Artisans' Project; and collecting, reviewing, and digitizing Hausa-Ajami manuscripts for the ASC online language resources.

**Lilly Havstad** is a PhD candidate in the Department of History. Lilly is currently conducting research in Mozambique, researching changing foodways and the emergence of an African middle class in the capital city of Maputo from the early twentieth century to present times. Her fieldwork is supported by a 2014-15 Fulbright-Hays DDRA Fellowship, and a BU GRAF.

**Martha Lagace** is a PhD student in BU's Anthropology department studying the daily negotiation of rights, responsibilities, and risks in northern Uganda's Gulu region. She was recently awarded a Fulbright-Hays DDRA Fellowship to conduct fieldwork in Uganda in 2015.

**Philip Rotz** is a PhD candidate in African history. His research interests center on the history of public health in Southern Africa, particularly the intersection of environmental, urban, and health history. He is in South Africa through 2015 to conduct research for his doctoral dissertation on the history of dengue fever in Durban and the coastal sugar belt of KwaZulu-Natal. His fieldwork is supported by a GRAF from BU and a Fulbright-Hays DDRA Fellowship.

**Ela Soyemi** is a PhD candidate in Political Science specializing in political philosophy. She also focuses on comparative politics, with especial interest in the Nigerian state and society. She is back home in Nigeria conducting fieldwork for her

dissertation examining political participation and perceptions of legitimacy, and has recently published an article in *Political Matter*.

**Mary Mildred (Mimi) Stith** is a PhD candidate in Anthropology and Fulbright Student Award recipient. She is conducting fieldwork in Tanzania, focusing on extractive industries in national game reserves.

**Ben Twagira** is a PhD student in History focusing on East Africa. He is recently back from research in the Great Lakes region, funded by a Fulbright-Hays DDRA. He is working on a comparative social history of the Great Lakes.

In September, I started a volunteer research internship at the Wits Art Museum, a new museum built in 2012 on the University of Witwatersrand campus in Braamfontein, a trendy neighborhood of Johannesburg. As part of my internship, I am looking at their extensive classical art collection and assisting with various projects around collections, reengagement, and acquisitions. Through this work, I started to consider closely the role the museum played in constructing cultural identity and how exhibition practices broadly are representing, or seeking to represent, the complexity of South African post-apartheid and multiracial identities.

Inspired by my work in the museum, and reminding myself that ideas are fluid and never fixed, I changed the direction of my research towards the end of October to focus on the politics of display in visual arts exhibitions in Johannesburg from 1994 to the present. My research includes fine art museums, artist-run galleries, and heritage sites in Johannesburg to consider how these different kinds of art spaces in the city are representing black South African identity within a contemporary, post-apartheid nation still grappling with racial equality. Of particular interest to my research is looking at how classical South African art is framed in contemporary contexts. These are broad and large areas and my interest is to narrow the scope of my research into a manageable dissertation in the months ahead.

# Outreach News

Barbara Brown

## African Studies Outreach is National and Cooperative

### Fall 2014

Once again, this fall I organized an exhibit and a workshop at a national teachers' conference. Last year it was the English teachers' conference; this year it was for 4,000 social studies teachers. For two days, we had non-stop "traffic" to our booth. Brenda Randolph, chair of the ASA CABA (*Children's Africana Book Award*) and I fielded questions together (and sold many of our posters & DVDs).

I also co-lead a workshop with *Facing History and Ourselves* (FHAO) on 3 ethical/political decisions that the ANC faced. FHAO & BU ASC are now putting the finishing touches on an e-book for high schools, tentatively titled *Apartheid and the Struggle for Freedom*.

The second conference this fall was an all-day workshop at the National Association of Independent Schools. Headlining our workshop were Sylviane Diouf and Eileen Julien.

*Faces*, a national world culture magazine for ages 9-13, accepted my suggestion for an issue devoted to peoples of the Nile, which would complement the national musicians' tour of the [www.NileProject.org](http://www.NileProject.org). An Ethiopian educator and I together served as consulting editors for the magazine. For a copy, visit your local library or: <http://www.cricketmag.com/FAC-FACES-Magazine-for-Kids-ages-9-14>

The whirlwind fall continued with Outreach arranging school visits for 2 visiting award-winning children's authors: Veronique Tadjó and Ifeoma Onyefulu.

Finally, I finished my consulting on the Pearson HS World History textbook—a challenging task, indeed. Under Islamic history, sub-Saharan Africa did not exist; the colonialism chapters seemed to have been written by a colonial diarist, and so on. Yet, of course, it was good work to do . . . and to be done with. The constraints of textbook publishing and the dreadful domination of Texas!



Veronique Tadjó speaks to elementary school students at an Outreach event.

### Spring 2015

We continue to benefit from collaboration with scholars who have received their degrees from BU. Currently, Jonathan Reynolds (PhD 1995) and I are collaborating on an update of our *Boko Haram Behind the Headlines* which in spring 2014 reached several thousand teachers. (The 2014 piece can be found at [www.bu.edu/africa/outreach](http://www.bu.edu/africa/outreach))

**Melissa Graboyes (PhD History 2010)** is creating a teaching resource for us on Ebola for high school and early college students. Melissa wrote a similar classroom resource, using primary documents, a few years ago: *Health & Disease in Africa: AIDS, Smallpox and Sleeping Sickness* [www.bu.edu/africa/outreach/resources/health-disease/](http://www.bu.edu/africa/outreach/resources/health-disease/) As was true of her *Health & Disease* piece, the Ebola piece arises out of her freshmen teaching, so is ready for your classes.

## New Collections Acquired by the African Studies Library

**Beth Restrick, African Studies Librarian**

As libraries increasingly turn to large book distributors, purchase collections of ebooks in bulk and concentrate on purchasing what is essential for their faculty and students, there is an underlying fear that collections could become generic across institutions.

One ongoing trend however continues to make libraries unique. As retiring scholars, independent researchers and alumni consider the long-term future of their personal collections, they turn to libraries and archives as possible repositories. The African Studies Library (ASL) has accepted collections from various individuals, whether affiliated with Boston University or with Africa-centered research. These personal collections often contain unpublished research, including memoirs, field notes, photographs, etc. and offer new insight both in terms of subject matter and research methodology. They present new challenges for libraries who find themselves assuming the role of an archive, learning to deal with various file formats not to mention copyright.

The African Studies Library currently has about 15 such collections and all are in various stages of organization. Here are brief descriptions of two of them:



Selections from the Emmert Family Slide Collection (l-r: one of many slides Martha took of women's hairstyles, banner in the Institut Médical Evangélique (1975), and the Baptist Church in Mukimbungu (1957))

**Nancy Schwartz Collection:** It was through connections with Parker Shipton that Nancy "Penny" Schwartz's collection came to reside at the ASL. Penny passed away in 2009 after a brave struggle with cancer. About a year later, ten boxes arrived at the library, containing a wealth of slides, cassettes with transcripts, field notes, a personal library and some physical objects.

Penny's interests led her to Kenya in the 1980's, where she researched the Legio Maria, an independent Catholic church begun in the 1960's predominantly among the Luo. It has since spread to other countries and is reputed to be the largest independent Catholic Church in sub-Saharan Africa. Penny's collection includes interviews with key church leaders, recorded sermons and speeches and a varied collection of over 200 books ranging from prayer books and catechisms to works on Luo culture, grammars and literature (in both English and Luo) by well-known Luo authors such as Asenath Bole Odaga, Okot P'Bitek, and

About A year later, ten boxes arrived at the library containing a wealth of slides, cassettes with transcripts, field notes, a personal library, and some physical objects.

Grace Ogot. The majority of the books have been cataloged and are available for consultation in the African Studies Library. Work on her transcripts and field notes continues.

**Emmert Family Slide Collection:** The African Studies Library received a collection of approximately 3,000 slides in September of 2014 from Daniel Emmert, son of missionaries Martha and Leon Emmert, who served for 35 years in what was then Belgian Congo with the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society.

The Emmerts arrived in the Belgian Congo in 1956 where they worked as teachers at high schools in Kimpese (Bas Congo), Nsona Mpangu, Moanza (where they assisted in establishing the first high school in the area), Milundu and later Kinshasa and Matadi. Martha taught art and science classes to Congolese students, served as director for elementary schools for a time in Moanza. Her husband also taught and later became associate general secretary for the mission, working together with a Congolese counterpart.

Martha was an avid photographer and the slide collection varies from “abstract art in nature” (used in her high school art classes), to church events, everyday life in Congo, portraits of mothers and children, women’s hairstyles, etc. To date, approximately 1,300 slides have been scanned and descriptions are being added with the assistance of her son Daniel and her autobiography, *Common Clay*.



Selections from the Nancy Schwartz Collection, including a fly whisk and ‘Sword of the Spirit’, used in church rituals. There are also two amulets with photographs of church founders.

**Conz, continued from page 5**

I do believe I have some fresh research from these files of letters, circulars, employment applications, field reports, research and experimental documents, and a slew of items from the Paramount Chief, lesser chiefs, and some letters from commoners complaining about this or that. One of my interests is in the agricultural demonstration programs as a historical channel of knowledge production and dissemination: How and when these programs began? Who was involved? Where did the people involved and ideas come from? What knowledge was disseminated, adopted, rejected, and why? And not least, what can this study tell us about agricultural knowledge and environmental change as well as the social and cultural worlds of rural Lesotho during those years?

My rural fieldwork has gone well. I have been able to learn a great deal about farming, grazing, language, vegetation, language, and local history. This learning has come while plowing, planting, gardening, walking about, weeding, milking cows, going to different church services, attending funerals, and playing a bit of football.

People have been quite accommodating and it is pretty touching to see how many people in the broader area of Tsoelike remember the red-bearded American who was always running or trekking around the district. That said, I have also found it very challenging to be here as a “researcher/visitor.” *Ke chaketse feela empa ke mofuphutsi joale ha ke ntse ke chaketse ke kopa ho bua ka nalane ea Lesotho* [I am only visiting, but I am a researcher and when I visit I hope to speak with you about the history of Lesotho]. “Well, which is it, *Ntate* [term of respect, literally “my father”], are you visiting or are you here to study us?”

# Students Graduating with African Studies Certificates

Erin Michelle Degraw, MPH (SPH, Jan. 2015)

Sarah Dorman, MA (IR/IC, Jan. 2015)

Lee Hekking, MA (IR, Jan. 2015)

Maya Guttman-Slater, MPH (SPH, Jan. 2015)

Leigh Forbush, MPH (SPH, Jan. 2015)

Karen Kirk, MPH (SPH, Jan. 2015)

Hannah Webb, MPH (SPH, Jan. 2015)

Natalie DiRocco, MPH (SPH, Jan. 2015)

Zachary Park Gersten, MPH (SPH, Jan. 2015)

Alison Anger, MPH (SPH 2015)

Jill Perri, SPH (MPH, 2015)

AliciaMarie Hulburt, MPH (SPH, Jan. 2014)

Sarah King, MPH (SPH, Jan. 2014)

Katherine Elaine Bartel Gordon, MA (IR, Jan. 2014)

Joshua Lacey, MA (IR, 2014)

Kim Van Perre, MPH (SPH 2014)

Pauline Lee, MPH (2014)

Lindsay Elise Hamsik, MA (IR/IC, Dec. 2013)

Valentine Boisriveau, MA (IR/IC, Sept. 2013)

Lisa Jenkins, MA (IR, Sept. 2013)

Leeann Sullivan, MA (IR, Sept. 2013)

Nick Smith, MA (IR, Sept. 2013)

Matthew W. Miller, MA (IR, 2013)

Nina Rhim, MPH (SPH, 2013)

John Alex Hamilton, MA (IR, 2013)

Alix Logan Saba, MA (IR, 2013)

Arnold V. Hammari, MA (IR, Jan. 2013)

## African Studies Minors for Spring 2013 to Fall 2014

Sarah Blair, IR, magna cum laude

Janina Colavita, Religion, minor in public health

Awo Sumah, PoliSci, magna cum laude

Kelly King, IR, cum laude

Rebecca Bres, French, magna cum laude

Jennifer Cahill, French

Yao Hung, IR, magna cum laude

Samantha Weinberg, IR/Economics, cum laude

### Faculty & Visiting Researchers cont'd from pg. 5

Melanesian and African forms of personhood and relationality.

She also co-organized the triple African Studies Association annual meeting panel "Perspectives on Land, Dislocation, and Boundaries" (Nov. 2014) that focused on the topics of belonging and boundary making in plural sites of public authority in Africa's conflict-affected communities, and presented at the workshop on Land, Conflict and Displacement at the Institute of Peace and Security Studies in Uganda. She was co-organizer for the invited EASA panel "The Threadbare Margins of Revolutions" (July 2014), and presented on informal policing in Tanzania. Daivi continued her

activities as lead researcher of the BU CFP Task Force on Remittances and Development in Post-Conflict States, following publication of the collaborative Task Force Report "Remittance Flows to Post-Conflict States: Perspectives on Human Security and Development" (October 2013). She published on the topics of informal value transfers, mobile money, and youth and remittances, as well as presented with other Task Force researchers at seminars at MIT, Boston University, and Harvard University, and co-organized a conference on Diaspora and Remittances in Washington DC, September 2014. Together with Parker Shipton, she also continued working on a research project on territoriality, sovereignty and belonging in East Africa, including their joint presentation of a Harvard Africa Workshop in February 2014.

**Heran Sereke-Brhan**, African Studies Center visiting research fellow in 2009-2011, is currently serving as Deputy Director of the Mayor's Office on African Affairs, Washington DC.

**Marc Sommers, PhD Anthropology 1994**, has a new book coming out in fall 2015 with the University of Georgia Press titled *The Outcast Majority: War, Development and Youth in Africa*. He also works part-time as Senior International Technical Advisor for the Education Development Center, and as Senior Conflict and Stabilization Advisor for the State Department (based part-time in Burundi).

## African Language Program

# Akan Twi Comes to the African Studies Center

The African Studies Center, an affiliated center of the Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies at Boston University, is growing its robust African language program, adding Twi, the spoken language of Ghana, in 2015, with a planned 2016 study abroad experience in Ghana to reinforce scholarship in the African nation's culture.

"Ghana is a very successful democracy and one of the fastest-growing economies in the world. In some ways, it's one of the easier nations in Africa to travel to," said Tim Longman, director of the African Studies Center. "There are many opportunities for students, particularly in the field of public health, in Ghana, and a grounding in the language is a wonderful opportunity we are happy to provide."

Twi is the newest addition to the African Studies Center's roster of tongues offered through their African language program. Since the 1970s, students have been afforded the chance to study Zulu, Xhosa, Wolof, Hausa, and other African languages.

Imperiled by budget cuts, the program recently received a \$2.3 million Title XI grant. The story of that process was featured in BU Today's March 4 article, "Speaking, Cooking, and Singing in Zulu."

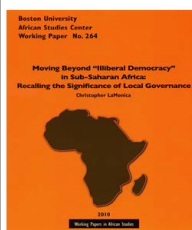
From the text of the article:

"After a spell of federal cutbacks put the program in peril, the US Department of Education (DoE), through its National Resource Centers (NRC) Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) grants, recently provided \$2.3 million to the African Studies Center (ASC) to offer fellowships for students and support Africa-focused education, particularly African language instruction. The NRC and FLAS four-year grants, part of the Title VI program of the DoE Office of International and Foreign Language Education, promotes greater understanding of countries and regions across the globe through foreign language, cultural immersion, and research."

## Papers of the Boston University African Studies Center

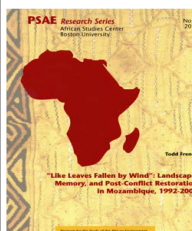
Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies

All papers are available on our website as pdf files



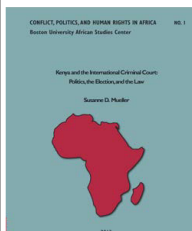
### Working Papers in African Studies

**Working Papers in African Studies** represent research in progress undertaken by scholars affiliated with the African Studies Center at Boston University, or scholarly work that was presented at the Center. Over 267 titles published from 1978 to the present are available.



### PSAE Research Series

This series is an outgrowth of the African Studies Center's *Program for the Study of the African Environment* (PSAE). The **PSAE Research Series** presents the results of ongoing research in African environmental studies and reflects the varied research interests and interdisciplinary perspective of Boston University scholars and our international collaborators. This series makes the results of current research on African environmental issues available to a wide audience and covers topics that include human ecology, anthropology, environmental archaeology, environmental history, public health, resource management, and development.



### Conflict, Politics, and Human Rights in Africa

Papers in this new series represent ongoing research by members of the Boston University African Studies Center and our international colleagues. Topics focus on contemporary issues of conflict, human rights, and politics in Africa.

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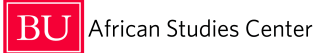
Part of what makes the African Languages Program so valuable, Longman said, was the clear link between language and practical study.

"We always try to link language instruction to immersion in a country," Longman said. "The thinking in our rollout of Twi is that students will be able to study in the classroom for a year, then travel to Ghana with a solid grounding."

Again, from the text of the BU Today article:

"There is a Zulu proverb, Umuntu ngumuntu ngabantu, which translates to, "A human being is a person because of others," says Zoliswa O. Mali, a School of Education clinical assistant professor of curriculum and teaching and coordinator of South African languages. "This means we are interdependent, we need each other as people. No one thrives in isolation." The saying could also describe the philosophy of African language studies at BU, which teaches language in the context of cultures, presenting them with humanity and exuberance rather than in a clinical, rote way in classes taught by untrained instructors."

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2014 Zanzibar Program students visited Mahurubi Palace on one of six planned excursions on the island.

## Summer 2015 African Languages Program @ BU

BU Summer Term Courses (Registration starts Feb 26)

Summer Terms I & II - June 15 to August 7:  
Beginning and Advanced Kinyarwanda (Rwanda/Burundi)  
Beginning Amharic (Ethiopia)

Rabat Arabic Language & Service Learning Program

Intensive Arabic combined with Arabic language Service Learning (Dates: Late May to Early July) Deadline March 1

Zanzibar: Swahili Language and Culture in East Africa

Intensive Swahili and "Religion, Politics & Identity in East Africa" (Dates: May 23 – July 5) Deadline March 1

More information <http://www.bu.edu/africa/summer>