

# BOSTON UNIVERSITY AFRICAN STUDIES NEWSLETTER

## SPRING 2016, ISSUE 5

### NEW SWAHILI PROGRAM FOCUSES ON HEALTH

Boston University's African Studies Center (ASC) piloted a Swahili language course designed for Masters of Public Health candidates during Spring 2016, and students discussed the benefits of the course as well as the close ties between the School of Public Health and the Center.

The class, Swahili With a Health Focus (CAS LE491), emphasizes Swahili language useful in conducting fieldwork and surveys, as well as cultural specific notions of health.

Jennifer Beard,  
Assistant Professor of

Global Health, took the class, and said the Center provides a link for faculty and students at the Medical Campus to colleagues on the Charles River Campus with similar research areas.

"In the Department of Global Health, almost all faculty and many staff and students have worked and/or lived in one or more African countries and we have active research projects there at all times," Beard said. "But, because we are on the Medical Campus, we don't often have contact with all the people around Boston University also working there. The African Studies Center creates links to Boston University colleagues we might never meet otherwise, even though we share similar interests and passions."

Peter Quella, Assistant Director of the African Studies Center, echoed these sentiments, saying

School of Public Health researchers account for a large percentage of Boston University's researchers in Africa.

"African Studies recognizes that School of Public Health faculty make up nearly one third of our affiliates on campus—and they represent Boston University's most active researchers on the African continent," Quella said. "Plus, they have great programming to get their students to the continent too. It didn't take much for us to recognize this natural synergy between our desire to teach African languages and African studies courses and this very active and interested group of scholars. In fact, since I've arrived at Boston University, School of Public Health students have actively encouraged us to pursue a better way to work together. I will admit that their energy and zeal for educational

opportunities at Boston University were the driving force for developing the relationship."

Beard said the course is especially helpful for Masters candidates doing field work in Africa — who will now arrive at their research locations having already developed significant language skills. Five students in this semester's course will be traveling to Tanzania in May as part of the East Africa Field Practice Program, according to Beard, while other students in the course have either already spent time in East Africa or are preparing for a future trip.

"In particular, the students traveling in May will have language skills they can use as soon as they arrive to socialize with people in the community as well as design and conduct their research," Beard said. "Of course, they only have



one semester of practice, but they now have a strong foundation to build on and the confidence to at least start conversations in Swahili and laugh at their mistakes. I am confident that their ability to speak and understand will develop rapidly once they are immersed in their day-to-day life in Tanzania. I hope that I can say the same for my own abilities by the end of June.”

Rupal Shah, a Boston University SPH alumnae, assisted with the Swahili With a Health Focus course by researching teaching materials and holding conversation sessions with students outside of class. Shah, who was born in Tanzania and did research there as part of her experience through the School of Public Health, said the course helps educate students on more than just language skills.

“This course was unique, in that students had the chance to participate in a language lab once a week to practice conversational Swahili,” Shah said. “During the conversations many cultural questions about East Africa came up which allowed a further discussion to take place regarding the importance of communication in the field. Not only do the students have a basic grasp of the language but they also have a better understanding of communicating with respect to the local culture.”

With a geographical divide between the School of Public Health and African Studies Center, Beard said it is even more important for the Swahili With a Health Focus course to continue to serve as a way to bridge the gap between the two programs.

“The crosstown divide



**TANZANIA SPH TEAM ON THE GROUND. FOLLOW THEIR ADVENTURE AT [INSTAGRAM.COM/BUSPH](https://www.instagram.com/busph)**

between our campuses does pose a barrier,” Beard said. “That’s why having the Swahili Course with a Health Focus taught here at the School of Public Health twice a week has been so great. I am taking the class along with the students and when I see the delight and excitement about

their upcoming travel that the course has been stirring up since January, I am convinced that we need to keep this class going and increase enrollment in coming semesters.”

# LEARN AN AFRICAN LANGUAGE

[bu.edu/africa/alp](https://bu.edu/africa/alp)



# FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Now in our seventh decade, the African Studies Center has a rich history that continues to unfold. Many of our faculty and staff have been part of the ASC community for decades, providing great continuity with our past and an ongoing connection for alumni. At the same time, we continue to develop new programs and to welcome new faces. Our history provides a strong basis for continuing to take on new challenges. This was only our second year as part of the Pardee School of Global Studies, which has provided us with opportunities to make new connections with other regional and thematic centers. This year in particular has been a time of many hellos and goodbyes. We were fortunate this year to host two visiting researchers. Toyomu Masaki, on the faculty of economics at Kanazawa University in Japan, conducted research on international trade in Francophone West Africa. Valentina Peveri, from the department of anthropology at the University of Bologna, studied the culture of food in Ethiopia. We really appreciate the contributions visiting scholars like these make to our community, but we're sad to see them return home at the end of the year.



As described in this newsletter, we were particularly happy this year to welcome Breeanna Elliott as our new Outreach Specialist. With our long-time Outreach Director Barbara Brown cutting back to half time, Breeanna is stepping in to develop new programs in our K-12 education activities and other community programs. She has brought wonderful new energy. We have also been pleased to welcome Cynthia Ezeani as WARA's new associate director, even as we have been sad to say farewell to Stephanie Guirand.

Our biggest change was the retirement of Joanne Hart after 41 years as program administrator. In four decades of service, Joanne welcomed generations of students to the Center, kept our office running, managed our finances, and kept the directors in line. In 2013, Joanne won the Perkins Distinguished Service Award, BU's top honor for staff recognizing her fantastic contributions to the university. We will particularly miss Joanne's flair for design. Everyone who comes to the ASC comments on how beautiful our space is, and we owe this largely to Joanne, who has carefully curated our art and decorated the Center. Joanne, we will miss you!

Finally, I cannot end without recognizing the loss of one of our recent alumni. Father Vincent Machozi was a doctoral student in the School of Theology who was an active member of the ASC. He fled to the United States in 2003 because of threats on his life for his human rights work, but he ultimately chose to suspend his studies and return to his native Democratic Republic of Congo to continue his ministry of witnessing and denouncing the abuse of civilians in North Kivu. After surviving seven previous attempts on his life, on March 20, 2016, he was shot to death, apparently by government troops. His own death was documented on the website, [www.benilubero.com](http://www.benilubero.com), that he set up to document the abuse of the Congolese people. We mourn his tragic loss, but we celebrate the fact that his important human rights work continues.

Tim Longman

April 2016



## FACULTY & VISITING RESEARCHERS

**Kathryn Bard** gave a paper at the Shanghai Archaeology Forum, Shanghai University, Shanghai, China, 2015: Keynote address: “The Archaeology of Contact and Cultural Diversity: Egypt, Nubia and Punt 3500-1470 BCE” and in Italy at the Red Sea Project VII, International Conference: The Red Sea and the Gulf: Two Alternative Maritime Routes in the Development of Global Economy, from the Late Prehistory to Modern Times, University of Naples “l’Orientale,” Naples & Procida, Italy: “Mersa/Wadi Gawasis: Organization of an Egyptian Bronze Age Harbor on the Red Sea Coast,” with R. Fattovich

**Jennifer Beard** (Global Health, SPH) published an article on children affected by HIV in the journal *Pediatric Clinics of North America* and wrote an op-ed for *The Conversation*, Africa Edition on children, HIV, and poverty in sub-Saharan Africa. With Bill Macleod (Dept of Global Health), Jennifer will be instructing The East Africa Field Research Course in Tanzania this year. We are working with. The group will be spending approximately 5 weeks in Iringa in Pommern Village, Kilolo District, collaborating with staff from Aga Khan University Institute for Educational Development, Pommern village leaders, the Kilolo District Council.

**Dan Connell** continued his field work on the Eritrean refugee experience, visiting refugee camps in northern Ethiopia’s Tigray Region in June 2015 and camps in Ethiopia’s eastern Afar Region in November. He returned to the Tigray camps this March. During this time his articles appeared in *South Africa’s Mail & Guardian*, the Washington-based *Foreign Policy in Focus* and the quarterly journal *Middle East Report*. He is now working on a book.

**Farouk El-Baz** (Center for Remote Sensing) is directing a research project in The Boston University Center for Remote Sensing, “Groundwater Potential in Arid Land of Chad: Interpretation of Recent Space Images and Field Surveys.” This two-year project is funded by the Government of the Republic Chad.

**Irene L. Gendzier** published her new book, *Dying to Forget: Oil, Power, Palestine, and the Foundations of U.S. Policy in the Middle East*, from Columbia University Press in November.

**Davidson Hamer** (Global Health and Medicine) published two articles stemming from research on public health in Zambia.

**James McCann** (History) delivered Boston University’s

# UPDATES

2015 University Lecture on a key Nile tributary—the Blue Nile—as both a 21st-century energy generator and as a talisman of spiritual significance for millennia. Speaking on November 2, 2015, McCann probed both aspects of the Blue Nile, which coils from Lake Tana in Ethiopia through Sudan, toward Egypt. His talk, “Sacred Waters: Historical Ecology, Power, and the Soul of the Blue Nile,” introduced the wonders of the waterway, positive and negative.

**Fallou Ngom** is contributing a chapter, “West African Manuscripts and Digital Preservation,” for a new reference project called the Oxford Research Encyclopedia of African History. Oxford University Press is an online encyclopedia for researchers, teachers, and students interested in all facets of the study of African History, conceived to combine the high standards of Oxford scholarly publishing with the flexibility of a digital environment. Check [bu.edu/Africa](http://bu.edu/Africa) for updates on Fallou’s book reading this October.

**Donna A. Patterson**, 2016 Carnegie Fellow at New America Foundation, published an article on the 2014 Ebola epidemic at *Anthropologie et Santé*. Her research from this article was featured in the March 2016 issue of *Sciences Humaines* magazine. Dr. Patterson recently gave a talk at the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences entitled “Pharmacy, Pharmaceuticals and Drugs in Africa.”

**Jeanne Marie Penvenne’s** book *Women, Migration and the Cashew Economy of Southern Mozambique, 1945 to 1975* was published by James Currey in August, 2015. In September she presented “Municipal Trajectories and Fractures from the Colonial Era to the Present: A Gendered Analysis,” at the Christian Michelsen Institute conference in Bergen, Norway. In November she presented at the African Studies Association’s Board-sponsored Roundtable on Dams, Delusion, and Development: Cahora Bassa and Its Legacies in Mozambique, 1965-2007, and the Lusophone Africa Studies Organization’s sponsored Roundtable on “Research, Writing and Publishing on Lusophone Africa” in San Diego, California. By vote of the Tufts University Trustees in February 2016, she was promoted to full Professor, beginning with the new academic year in September 2016.

**Dana L. Robert** (Theology) announces the preliminary launch of the School of Theology’s “Old and New in Shona Religion” photography database, viewable at <http://sites.bu.edu/shonareligion/>.





Join Boston University Faculty, Staff,  
and Alumni at the African Studies  
Association Alumni Reception in  
Washington DC this December.  
Information & registration at  
[bu.edu/Africa](http://bu.edu/Africa)

**Parker Shipton**, Professor of Anthropology and Research Fellow in African Studies, was a Visiting Fellow at All Souls College for the Trinity Term (spring-summer), 2014, and then Andrew W. Mellon CASBS Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University, for the 2014-5 academic year. He continues work on two main writing projects. One is about concepts of savagery and their history. The other is about contests over seniority, juniority, and sacred sequence in uncentralized civilizations in East Africa and elsewhere. With Dr. Davi Rodima-Taylor and a network of colleagues at BU and elsewhere, he has been co-organizing a group research project called "Mortgaging Across Cultures" under a grant from the Center for Finance, Law, and Policy.

**Marc Sommers'** new book, *The Outcast Majority: War, Development, and Youth in Africa* (University of Georgia Press) was released on December 1, 2015. In conjunction with his book, Marc has started a blog on [youthpower.org](http://youthpower.org) entitled *International Development and Outcast Youth Majorities*. He has been busy presenting his latest research to more than a dozen government and private donor agencies, United Nations agencies, NGOs, policy institutes, and universities. This past August, Marc was a featured speaker at a major international conference on youth, peace and security in Jordan. He is currently preparing an article on children affected by the mining industry in Sierra Leone and a chapter for a forthcoming book called *African Capacity to Resist and Recover from Conflict*.

**Nimi Wariboko** has been awarded the distinguished Ali Mazrui Award for Scholarship and Research Excellence. In conjunction with the award, Professor Wariboko has also been invited to deliver the keynote address for the Toyin Falola African Conference on Africa and the African Diaspora. Professor Wariboko is a world renowned scholar in ethics and Pentecostalism. The Mazrui award gives us a glimpse of the global appreciation

for his work, especially his prolific research drawing from the deep wells of African and pan-African traditions and cultures.

## CURRENT STUDENTS

**Karl Haas** (Ethnomusicology) was invited to participate in the Seventh Annual Doctoral Workshop in Ethnomusicology in the Center for World Music at the University of Hildesheim, Germany. He was awarded the Angela J. and James J. Rallis Memorial Award and the Edwin S. and Ruth M. White Prize from the Boston University Center for the Humanities. Karl recently accepted the position of Assistant Professor at Berklee College of Music, and will graduate in the Spring.

**Lilly Havstad** (History) was awarded a grant by the American Historical Association to present her paper "É Nossa Comida: Food, Cultural Hybridity, and Mobility in Maputo, Mozambique" at the 2016 annual meeting. Lilly is one of only three graduate students to be awarded The Dorothy Rosenberg Phi Beta Kappa Annual Meeting Graduate Fellowship.

**Philip Rotz** (History) received the Vice-Presidential Postgraduate Essay Prize at the Southern African Historical Society's 25th Biennial Conference in Stellenbosch. The prize includes a gift certificate from Routledge for 250 GBP worth of book selections as well as the opportunity to publish in the *South African Historical Journal*. His essay -- "Sweetness and Fever? Sugar Production, Aedes aegypti, and Dengue Fever in Natal, South Africa, 1926-27" -- appeared as a working paper in ASC's Program for the Study of the African Environment series.



# FATHER VINCENT MACHOZI SCHOLARSHIP ESTABLISHED

## A MAN, A MINISTER, REMEMBERED

Father Vincent Machozi (STH '15) was a priest with the Augustinians of the Assumption (Assumptionists), and founder of the website Beni Lubero with the purpose of reporting on the atrocities committed by all sides in the turmoil in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. On the night of March 20, 2016, Machozi was shot to death by DRC soldiers after he posted an online article denouncing the involvement of the Congolese and Rwandan presidents in the massacres of innocent civilians. Fr. Machozi was a beloved member of the African Studies Center where he worked tirelessly on outreach projects aimed at raising awareness of the violence in the DRC and promoting peace.

On April 26, 2016 the Boston University community celebrated the life of Fr. Machozi. He was committed to working with Protestants and Catholics to promote peace and justice. Center Director Timothy Longman spoke at the memorial service and reminded the community that "the loss of Father Machozi leaves a deep wound, but his life and work inspired others who will step up to continue his ministry of fighting oppression and saving lives."

In honor of the life and work of Fr. Machozi the Boston University School of Theology hopes to endow the Fr. Vincent Machozi Memorial Scholarship and Lecture on Building Justice and Peace.

This scholarship will be offered to one or more students from Africa, attending Boston University's School of Theology, with a preference for those who are committed to study and service focused on justice and peace. This lecture will address global issues of justice and peace, with a particular focus on grassroots transformations of society.

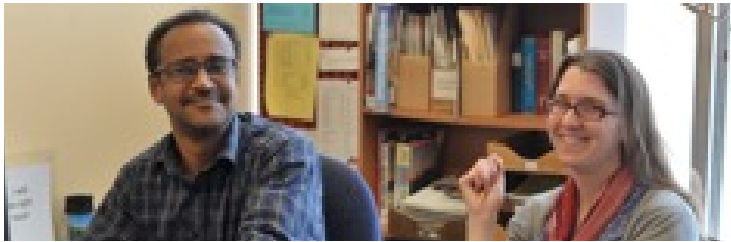


To donate please visit [bu.edu/machozi](http://bu.edu/machozi) or call  
617-353-2349.



# AFRICAN STUDIES LIBRARY

## NEW STAFF



It has been a busy semester for the African Studies Library and there is much to share! I had hoped to be able to announce that for the first semester since spring of 2013, our library was fully staffed, but unfortunately Caroline Christian (responsible for cataloguing much of our Africana collections) has been out for the semester due to health reasons. We look forward to her return. As many of you are aware, two of our long-time staff, David Westley (bibliographer) and Loumona Petroff (cataloguer) retired in 2014. Shortly before their departure, Rachel Dwyer joined the ASL as Assistant Head. She has proved to be an invaluable addition to the ASL, bringing with her a love of literature as well as prior archival experience. She was no stranger to BU when she joined the ASL, having spent 5 years working at the Science & Engineering Library. During this time she studied isiXhosa, taught by our own Zoliswa Mali. She later worked at the Boston Athenaeum and served as an archival intern in BU's Howard Gotlieb Archival Research Center. It is largely through Rachel's efforts that great strides have been made in the processing of our special collections.

In January of this year, a year and a half following David Westley's retirement, Gabeyehu (Gabe) Adugna joined the ASL staff. Gabe has quickly settled into his role as Africana Librarian, becoming familiar with our collections, assisting students with their research and getting to know our African Studies community here at BU. Gabe's previous work experience is broad, ranging from librarian at the National Meteorological Services Agency in Addis Ababa, to working as a librarian for several NGOs in Geneva, Switzerland and then more recently, as a reference and instruction librarian at Community College of Baltimore County. His passion is information literacy and library instruction. He is committed to helping students become research literate so that they can successfully navigate not only the BU Libraries' resources, but use the internet effectively to meet their needs. Both Gabe (left) and Rachel

(right) have brought new perspectives and a wonderful enthusiasm; exciting times are ahead!

## NEW ACQUISITIONS

**Hogarth/Meabook acquisitions of publications from Africa.** New arrivals include an extensive collection of Amharic texts, including fiction and historical works. We have also received a series entitled "Southern African Liberation Struggles: Contemporaneous Documents, 1960-1994". This 9 volume set "record[s] interviews with liberation fighters and supporters in the Frontline states and the extraordinary sacrifices they made so that Africa could at last be free." African Books Collective describes it as "the most comprehensive historical record of the liberation struggles in southern Africa".

### From the Library of Congress office, Nairobi.

We received a number of free issues of popular Kenyan comic, Shujaaz. Written in Sheng (a slang language, spoken by Kenyan urban youth), the comics tackle contemporary issues with an edgy combination of illustrations and photographs.

### Acquisitions from our African Studies Community.

Back in January, one of our graduate students, Esther Austin (IR/IC), and her husband traveled to southern Algeria's Saharawi refugee camps for a research project. She had the opportunity to meet the Minister of Culture, who gave her 18 publications specifically for the African Studies Library here at BU. Written in Arabic script, they have yet to be catalogued but topics appear to include politics, culture, and oral history.

Lilly Havstad (History) purchased some materials on behalf of the African Studies Library while doing her field research in Mozambique. Lilly and Beth, communicating by email, were able to work on filling some of the gaps in BU's collection of Tempo magazine. Lilly also purchased some publications concerning women's issues and their role in the liberation struggle as well as several historical accounts of Franciscan missionaries and their work in Mozambique.

Professor Emeritus John Hutchison purchased some works about the renowned Nigerien theatre icon, Yazi Dogo. These works are the most recent additions to BU's Archive of the Republic of Niger and complement a recent donation of Hausa play scripts, translations and recordings from Janet Beik, a Fulbright Scholar in Niger in the 1980's. John Hutchison has also donated a collection of textiles to the ASL.

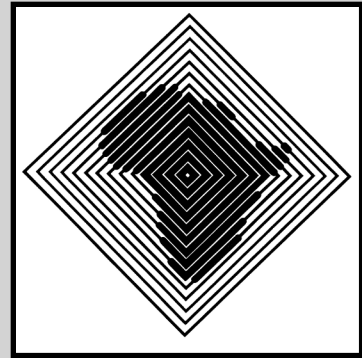
# THE END OF AN EPOCH—JOANNE HART RETIRES

We can't simply say that this is a change in an era, or a change in personnel. The African Studies Center has experienced an epochal shift with the retirement of longtime Program Administrator, Joanne Hart. Joanne served in that role for 41 years, working with five directors (John Harris, Allen Hoben, James McCann, James Pritchett, James McCann again, and finally Timothy Longman) and a whole host of students. In total, Joanne worked for Boston University for forty-six years. She recalled recently how nervous she was when she first started at African Studies, not really knowing what to expect and never having managed something called "a grant" before. Having been part of many successful grant applications since, she told the revelers at a retirement toast she will miss the people of the center most, her second home. Many alumni and current students fondly recalled that Joanne was especially appreciated as the go-to person whenever they needed information or help with just about anything. Her legacy will certainly live on, as James McCann commented, "Joanne

organized and was key player in continuity in physical space --from 10 Lenox St to 125 BSR, to 270 BSR, to 232 BSR. What was remarkable in each move was the continuity in our spiritual translation to new space with pieces of art, symbols of our engagement with Africa (our famous askari whose mirror-eye gaze protects us all), our c. 1955 South African artist's pen and ink, our communal, commensal sites and like no other in the United States - shared by generations of African scholars, students, and visitors. It has been our home and Joanne was the force majeure that conveyed that spirit. It endures..." Already, in the few days since her retirement became official, I have fielded surprised inquiries from the delivery men and women, and numerous office personnel across campus. Joanne has been synonymous with the Center for so long there will be a long period of adjustment for everyone. In 2013, Joanne was awarded the John S.



Perkins Award for Distinguished Service and was honored at an award ceremony and reception in the Metcalf Trustee Ballroom, 1 Silber Way. It was an elegant evening with numerous faculty, students and family members in attendance, celebrating Joanne's important contributions toward the goals of Boston University. Due to the recentness of this celebration Joanne eschewed another for her retirement, but I am sure she would enjoy hearing from alumni, community members, past visiting scholars and faculty. Joanne can be reached at [joannehart@comcast.net](mailto:joannehart@comcast.net).



## #OURBUAFRICA

We want to know what you're up to! We welcome our alumni, students, and faculty to send us updates and news.

Posting on social media about your experience at the Center, a great memory from your time abroad with us, or an event update we'd want to hear about?

**TAG US!**

Use #OurBUAfrica on any platform so we can stay up to date with you and what you have to say.

See you online!



# CONGRATULATIONS!

## GRADUATE CERTIFICATES

Sergio Medina Alvarez, MA (International Affairs, IRAF)

Abel Djassi Amado, PhD (Political Science)

Alison Anger, MPH (SPH)

Esther Austin, MA (IRIC)

Bethany Ann Bell, MA (IR)

Tanner Scott Crandall, MPH (SPH)

Erin Michelle Degraw, MPH (SPH)

Katrina Nicole Demulling, PhD (UNI)

Natalie DiRocco, MPH (SPH)

Sarah Dorman, MA (IR/IC)

Claire Elizabeth Felter, MS (COM, Journalism)

Leigh Forbush, MPH (SPH)

Zachary Park Gersten, MPH (SPH)

Maya Guttman-Slater, MPH (SPH)

Karl Haas, PhD (Ethnomusicology)

Lee Hekking, MA (IR)

Nyeleti Karina Honwana, MA (IR)

Jeanette Louise Kaiser, MPH (SPH)

Karen Kirk, MPH (SPH)

Gareth McFeely, PhD (History)

Jasmine Ling Miller, BA/MA (CAS)

Molly Leah Meyer, MA (IR)

Mary Chloe Mulderig, PhD (Anthropology)

Jill Perri, MPH (SPH)

Rupal Ramesh Shah, MPH (SPH)

Aberra Tesfay, PhD (Political Science)

Valerie Wai-San Aw, MPH (SPH)

Hannah Webb, MPH (SPH)

Stephanie Wiseman, MPH (SPH)

## RECENT PHDS

**Abel Djassi Amado**, Political Science, *The Illegible State in Cape Verde: Language Policy and the Quality of Democracy*

**Zophia Edwards**, Sociology, *Boom and Gloom: Comparing the Diverse Development Outcomes Among Oil-and-Mineral-Dependent Developing Countries*

**Karl Haas**, Ethnomusicology, *Music, Masculinity, and Tradition: A Musical Ethnography of Dagbamba Warriors in Tamale, Ghana*

**Gareth McFeeley**, History, *"Gone are the Days": A Social and Business History of Cinema-Going in Gold Coast/Ghana*

**Mary Chloe Mulderig**, Anthropology, *Present Imperfect: Hypocrisy and the Pluralization of Islamic Understanding in Fes, Morocco*

**Rachel Nalepa**, Earth and Environment, *The Redistribution of Land for Commercial Agriculture in the Era of 'Land Grabbing': A Multi-Scalar Exploration of the 'Marginal Lands' Narrative with a Focus on Contemporary Ethiopia*

**Kristen K. Stern**, French, *Writing on Stage: Performative Authorship and Contemporary Francophone African Writers*

**Aberra Tesfay**, Political Science, *The Extent and Impacts of Decentralization Reforms in Ethiopia*



# OUTREACH

## OUTREACH IN BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Outreach Specialist Breeanna Elliott has partnered with nationally recognized second grade teacher Chris Hoeh to develop an elementary-aged project entitled "Africa is a Continent: Teaching Diversity through Literature." Hoeh, who is the most recent recipient of the NCSS Outstanding Elementary Social Studies Teacher Award, teaches at Cambridge Friends School and focuses heavily on Africa and the use of material culture and African speakers to facilitate learning in his classroom. Together, they will curate a



variety of lower elementary-level books on Africa and provide teachers with the necessary lesson plans (e.g., preview activities, reading activities, integrative learning activities) to easily introduce and incorporate Africa into the classroom. Although many schools nationally are resource-poor when it comes to teaching about Africa, elementary schools are



especially lacking in this area. This resource niche is of particular importance to Boston Public Schools, which has a second grade curriculum that requires the teaching of each continent during the academic year, as well as the connections students in Boston have with peoples, cultures, and countries from around the world. Elliott hopes this project, which is to be completed by this summer, will equip educators with the skills and materials to feel confident in presenting Africa in a diverse and representative manner; and in turn, allowing students to identify commonalities, acknowledge differences, and appreciate the varied connections they have with the continent.

## SUMMER TEACHER INSTITUTE

In July, the ASC co-sponsored a week-long summer institute for middle and high school teachers, with the topic, "Modern African History: Colonialism, Independence and Legacies." Barbara Brown, the Outreach Director, advised on the planning of the institute which we co-led with Primary Source, a local NGO focusing on professional development for teachers. Dr. Brown, James McCann, Tim Longman and Diana Wylie all presented sessions during the week.

## AFRICAN LITERATURE BOOK CLUB

This past March, Author Zakes Mda met with the African Literature Book Club to discuss his work ahead of delivering the 2016 Bradford Morse Distinguished Lecture.

## NEW TEACHING CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

The Outreach Program has created a new Teacher Certification Program as part of their longstanding commitment to promote the teaching of African and the African diaspora in U.S. schools. Students accepted into the Program for this fall will complete a minimum of 16 credits in university-level coursework and teaching workshops. Course may be taken at any accredited university but must have a primary focus in Africa, including one class with a predominantly historical perspective. Teaching workshops will be sponsored by the African Studies Center and taught on the Boston University Campus.

Application requirements and transcript information can be found at [bu.edu/africa/outreach](http://bu.edu/africa/outreach) with an application deadline of September 1 2016 for the fall semester. Email Breeanna Elliott at [bmellio@bu.edu](mailto:bmellio@bu.edu) for more information.





# ALUMNI UPDATES

**Emily Nolan** (BA, Pardee, 2011) is finishing her current position as the Development and Operations Associate at Bridge Boston Charter School in preparation for full-time graduate studies in the fall. She will attend Brandeis' Heller School for Social Policy and Management in Waltham, MA and earn a Master of Arts in Sustainable International Development as well as a Master of Business Administration with a focus on Nonprofit Management.

**Melissa Graboyes** (MPH, Health Law, 2007; PhD, History, 2010) has accepted a full time, tenure-track position within the Clark Honors College, an independent college within the larger University of Oregon. The curriculum is rooted in a humanities based general education that requires that all students take a series of history, literature, and general science courses. For the fall of 2016, Dr. Graboyes will be developing and teaching a course related to the Black Death and plague in Western Europe and Africa in 1347-1349, and a course on the history of modern public health with a focus on global eradication campaigns since the 1920s.

**Abel Djassi Amado** (Political Science) recently published an article, "America's African 'Anchor' States: Cabo Verde" on the website Political Matter.

**Elizabeth Doane** (BA, Pardee, 2010) currently works as a Senior Analyst for Manhattan Strategy Group, a management consulting firm based in Bethesda, MD, conducting evaluations of U.S. trade and export promotion initiatives in developing countries. Ms. Doane is also completing a joint masters at American University in Washington, D.C. pursuing an MBA from the Kogod School of Business and an MSc in Development Management from the School of International Service.

**Zachary Gersten** (BA, Biology, 2011; MPH, Global Health, 2015) currently works as the Project Coordinator in the Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, Tufts University for the International Dietary Data Expansion (INDDEX) Project, the Innovative Metrics and Methods for Agriculture and Nutrition Actions (IMMANA) Fellowships workstream, and the Indicators of Affordability of Nutritious Diets in Africa Project. Zachary is also a Teaching Assistant in the Boston University School of Public Health Global Health Department.



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