

# THE BOSTON



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## NATIONAL DIGEST

### In the Nation

#### University plans program for former African leaders

BOSTON — Boston University plans to launch a residency program for former African heads of state, a project that supporters say offers an exit strategy for leaders in need of a way to leave their jobs gracefully.

"There is life after the presidency," said the Rev. Charles Stith, the former U.S. ambassador to Tanzania who is spearheading the Balfour African Presidents in Residence program. Stith plans to bring a former African head of state to the school every year, targeting executives who were elected democratically and agreed to step down from power. Beginning in September, the school would provide a 12-month residency, an undisclosed stipend, a light course load and speaking tours.

"Until you provide an exit strategy that gives ... a respectable way to make a living, a way to say, 'I will be able to meet people I knew in the past without holding my head down,' then there are no incentives to give up power," Georgetown professor Gwendolyn Mikell, a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, told the *Boston Globe*.