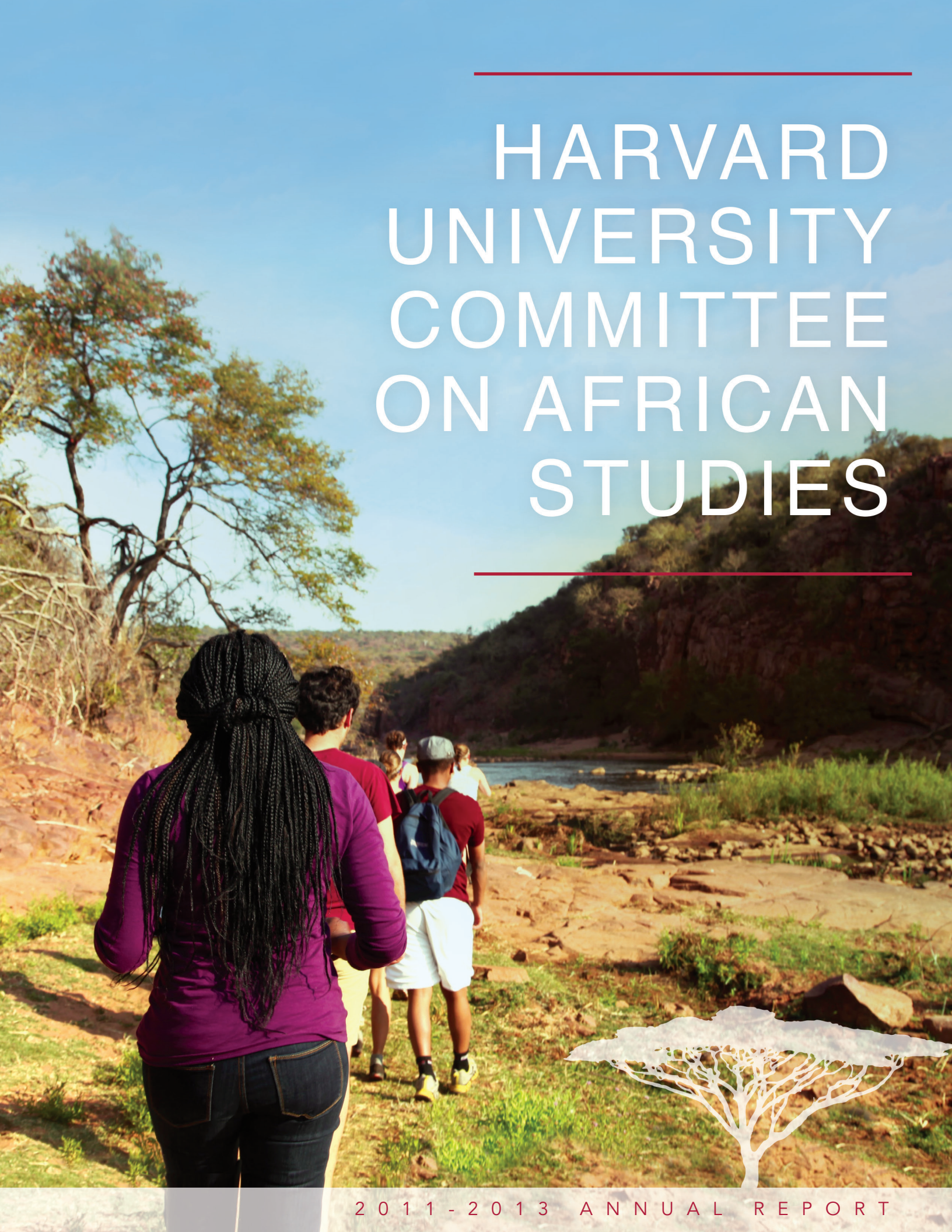


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# HARVARD UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON AFRICAN STUDIES

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2011 - 2013 ANNUAL REPORT



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## THE PAST TWO YEARS HAVE BEEN A PERIOD OF UNPRECEDENTED GROWTH FOR AFRICAN STUDIES AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

During this time, the Committee on African Studies (CAS) has spearheaded a series of initiatives, faculty hires, and administrative changes with an eye to the long-term expansion and sustainability of our program, both in Cambridge and in Africa. Indeed, when I took on the role of faculty chair of CAS over four years ago, our goal was to transform Harvard and African Studies into a world-class program, and one that would serve not only as a benchmark for other institutions around the globe, but also as a model for collaboration between faculty and students at Harvard, and between Harvard and collaborators outside of Cambridge, particularly in Africa.

To this end, CAS joined the ranks of elite area studies centers in 2010 when the Department of Education designated Harvard as a National Resource Center for the study of Africa. Since that time, we have engaged in an ambitious and robust strategic initiative that has sought, among other things, to expand the ranks of our faculty

in under-represented areas at the University; create new programmatic engagements; provide crucial funding and support for students traveling to Africa for research, study abroad, and internships; institute a leading think-tank for cutting-edge Africanist scholarship, research and dissemination of knowledge; systematize our collaborations in Africa and develop a full-time presence on the continent; and cultivate new sources of external funding.

I invite you to join me in marveling at all that has been undertaken in the last two years. Highlights include the arrival of world renowned Africanists, Professors Jean and John Comaroff, appointed in the Departments of African and African American Studies and Anthropology; the launch of one of our flagship intellectual initiatives, the African Studies Workshop; the development of two new study abroad programs in Zanzibar and Cape Town; the completion of the 18-month approval processes for the establishment of a CAS office in Cape Town, South Africa, as well as University approval for the transformation of CAS into a full-fledged Center for African Studies; and the nine-month search process for a new Executive Director, which yielded Dr. Susan Cook, a PhD in African Anthropology with extensive administrative experience in Africa, most recently for the Bafokeng Nation.

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Finally, I would be remiss not to single out a few individuals for particular thanks. The first are Jennifer and Jonathan Oppenheimer, whose unyielding support of CAS, and Harvard's African Studies program more broadly, has helped to transform the vision and hopes of so many into reality. Through the Oppenheimers' considered and thoughtful feedback, as well as generous financial contributions, Professors Jean and John Comaroff were able to join the faculty at Harvard; the African Language Program—the world's foremost African language program, offering as many as 32 languages—is now celebrating its tenth anniversary; and the Oppenheimer Fellow at the Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research was established.

In addition, I must recognize CAS's new Executive Director, Dr. Susan Cook, who was selected from a highly competitive applicant pool, and whose myriad skills—including five different languages, and over a decade of experience working in Africa—have already helped transform CAS's administrative structure to better reflect our mission of engagement with Africa, as well as our rapid programmatic and institutional growth. Finally, I would like to recognize my colleague, Professor Lucie White of the Harvard Law School, who so ably filled in for me during the 2012-13 academic year whilst I was on leave. During this time, Lucie helped to implement many of our long-term strategic plans, while at the same time bringing a new, critical eye to our program. Together with



Lucie, and countless colleagues and students across the University, I am dedicated to creating a sustained, world-class institution for the study of Africa at Harvard and beyond, and to many future years of continued intellectual, programmatic, and administrative growth.

*Caroline Elkins*

Professor of History and African  
and African American Studies

Chair, Committee on African Studies

## PROGRAMS & EVENTS

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### THE COMMITTEE ON AFRICAN STUDIES IS COMMITTED TO ORGANIZING AND SPONSORING WORLD-CLASS AFRICA-RELATED EVENTS AT HARVARD.

University-wide in our mission and scope, CAS's events reflect the outstanding quality of our interdisciplinary faculty and visitors, who have often integrated academic research with engagements into issues of contemporary relevance. In the past two years, Africanist events have spanned broadly across time and space, including such critical topics as Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping, the future of technology and teaching in Africa and beyond, and the integration of the humanities, social sciences, and sciences in addressing some of the most vexing questions facing Africa and Africanist scholars in the 21st century. A range of scholars, artists, and public intellectuals have delivered lectures and participated in panel discussions. They include William Kentridge, Chimamanda Adichie, Frederick Cooper, Neba Solo, Charles Van Onselen, Charles Piot, and James Ferguson.

During the academic year for 2012-2013, CAS inaugurated the African Studies Workshop and Conference as one of its signature event series.

Participants have included renowned scholars such as Achille Mbembe, Julie Livingston, Jane Guyer, and many emerging leaders in the field. In addition to the workshop, CAS hosted or co-sponsored some ninety additional events on campus over two years.

The CAS graduate Student Workshop also continued to give advanced graduate students a supportive environment in which to share research and explore new ideas with their Africanist peers from across the University, and benefit for input from faculty moderators. Over the course of the two academic years, twenty-one graduate students presented research on a variety of topics from diverse disciplines including history, government, sociology, religion, and anthropology.

Spring semester 2013 saw the launch of CAS's Africa Film Series, which screens a film from Africa every other week during the semester, often followed by a faculty-led discussion. The highlight of the term was *Jazz Mama*, a documentary about the uncompromising strength and dignity of Congolese women despite the obstacles and violence they face. An in-depth discussion with the film's creators, Petna Ndaliko and Harvard PhD alumna Chérie Rivers Ndaliko, followed the screening.





### SULTAN OF SOKOTO VISIT

**October** His Eminence Alhaji Muhammad Sa'ad Abubakar III, the Sultan of Sokoto, religious leader of the Nigerian Muslim community, visited campus in early October. While in Cambridge, he delivered the Samuel L. and Elizabeth Jodidi Lecture. During his visit, several Nigerian students at the College, as well as a number of Harvard graduate students, attended a Sunday-morning brunch with the Sultan, hosted at Lowell House.

### SOUND OF THE HORN

**February** Together with the Program in Infectious Disease and Social Change at the Harvard School of Public Health and the student-run organization Harvard for the Horn, CAS hosted prominent experts on the famine in the Horn of Africa for an evening discussion and Q&A with an audience of over 300. **Dr. Paul Farmer** gave a keynote address and introduced area experts including **Dr. Robert Paarlberg**, Betty Freyhof Johnson Class of 1944 Professor of Political Science, Wellesley College; **Dr. William Masters**, Professor and Chair of the Food and Nutrition Policy Department, Friedman School of Nutrition, Tufts University; **Dr. Kenneth Menkhaus**, Professor of Political Science, Davidson College; and **Michael Delaney**, Director of Humanitarian Response, Oxfam.

### MACMILLAN-STEWART LECTURE SERIES: AFRICA IN THE WORLD

**February** This series of lectures by esteemed NYU professor Frederick Cooper, co-sponsored by the Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research and CAS, addressed three topics under the theme of Africa in the World: *Africa and Capitalism*, *Africa and Empire*, and *Africa and the Nation-State*. Capacity crowds of over 100 faculty and students attended the event on all three consecutive days.

### RE-MAPPING AFRICA IN GIS: FROM HUMANITIES TO HEALTH

**March** Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping is a cutting-edge technology used today in both policy, and in academic research. Harvard is a leader in the development of this technology across fields, as witnessed, in part, by this two-day conference, which brought together experts from across disciplines from around the world to explore and analyze the current and emergent uses of GIS technology. The conference specifically explored ways in which scholars and researchers in seemingly disparate fields such as health and human rights, historical anthropology, and art history can leverage their complementary research methods and draw upon findings in fields outside their own areas of expertise.

## KEY EVENTS 2011-2012

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### WOMEN MAKING DEMOCRACY

**March** The Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study's annual Gender Conference, co-sponsored by CAS, addressed the theme "Women Making Democracy," considering the role of women specifically—and gender more generally—in movements for democratic change. Activists, journalists, and academics from different fields and disciplines examined and analyzed recent events in countries affected by the democratizing efforts often described as the "Arab Spring" and compared women's experiences of these events with those of women in other moments of democratic change around the world, including Eastern Europe, South Africa, and Latin America.

### DRAWING LESSONS: WILLIAM KENTRIDGE LECTURE SERIES

**March/April** The Distinguished Norton Lecturer for 2011-2012, South African artist William Kentridge, delivered six original lectures to capacity crowds in Sanders Theater. The Norton lectures are a University-wide distinction, and the selection of William Kentridge from among many humanists around the world is reflective of Africa's prominence throughout the University community writ large.

### HARVARD AFRICA SEMINAR: CHIMAMANDA ADICHIE READING FROM A NOVEL IN PROGRESS "AMERICANAH"

**April** Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, award-winning fiction writer and author of *Half of a Yellow Sun* (Knopf, 2006), *Purple Hibiscus* (Algonquin Books, 2003) and *The Thing around Your Neck* (Knopf, 2009) spent a fellowship year at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, co-sponsored by CAS, researching and writing a new novel. With over 200 in attendance, Adichie read several autobiographical vignettes, as well as excerpts from the novel she was writing at Radcliffe: AMERICANAH.



South African artist William Kentridge.

### KONY 2012 SCREENING AND FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION

**May** On May 2, 2012, the Invisible Children Road Crew held a screening of *Kony 2012* and *Kony 2012 Part 2*, and presented a lecture and Q&A with a former Ugandan child soldier. As a follow-up to this event, CAS hosted a lunchtime panel discussion about *Kony 2012*, the controversy surrounding the video and its maker, Invisible Children, and the current state of the Lords Resistance Army in Central Africa. Professors Patrick Vinck, Thomas Burke, and Phuong Pham, together with doctoral candidate Matthew Kustenbauder, led the discussion.

### THE COUP IN MALI: CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES

**May** This dynamic scholarly discussion of the spring coup in northern Mali, led by Professor Ingrid Monson, included perspectives from recent visitors to the area, as well as from members of Boston's Malian community.



### FILM SCREENING AND DISCUSSION: "DEAR MANDELA"

**September** CAS, along with the Du Bois Institute, the Gleitsman Program in Leadership for Social Change, the Political Anthropology Working Group and the Harvard Law Documentary Studio, co-sponsored a special screening of the award-winning documentary *Dear Mandela*. Filmmaker Dara Kell as well as Mnikelo Ndabankulu and Zodwa Nsibande from South African Shackdwellers' Movement, Abahlali baseMjondolo, were in attendance for a post-screening discussion, led by ACLS New Faculty Fellow Kerry Chance.

### HOW THE DISAPPEARANCE OF AFRICA'S WILDLIFE AFFECTS ITS PEOPLE

**October** In conjunction with the Cambridge Public Library's *Cambridge Reads* program, Ecologist Hillary Young of Harvard's Center for the Environment shared the challenges African communities face following declines in biodiversity and changes in land usage. This public event, sponsored by CAS, complimented this year's *Cambridge Reads* book, *Three Weeks in December*, by Audrey Schulman.



Professor Ingrid Monson with musician Neba Solo.

### DANCING IN THE GLORY OF MONSTERS: A TALK WITH THE AUTHOR

**October** Author Jason Stearns has been working on the Congo for the past 10 years, most recently as the head of a United Nations expert panel. He shared thoughts on his book *Dancing in the Glory of Monsters: The Collapse of the Congo and the Great War of Africa*.

### SOUTH AFRICA'S CHALLENGES IN THE FACE OF PROGRESS: A DISCUSSION

**October** A conversation with ALCS New Faculty Fellow, Kerry Chance; Assistant Professor of Business Administration, Catherine Duggan; and Harvard students about South Africa's progress over the past two decades and how the country can continue to make strides in light of challenges such as the Marikana tragedy and labor unrest in South Africa's mining and other sectors.

### KENEDOUGOU VISIONS: NEBA SOLO AND THE SENUFO BALA/ NEBA SOLO: MUSIC FOR PEACE IN MALI.

**November** Professor Ingrid Monson delivered a lecture on musician Neba Solo and the social and cultural history of Mali. Monson—the 2012–2013 Suzanne Young Murray Fellow at the Radcliffe Institute and the Quincy Jones Professor of African American Music at Harvard—is writing a book about Neba Solo, a balafonist and composer from Mali, titled *Kenedougou Visions*. Following Monson's talk, Neba Solo presented a concert of his virtuosic xylophone music and his socially conscious lyrics. Playing with his brother, Siaka Traoré, Neba Solo debuted his most recent composition, which calls for peace in Mali.

## KEY EVENTS 2012-2013

### AFRICA RESEARCH SEMINAR: "CONFLICT AND BEYOND, A DEEPER LOOK INTO TELLING AFRICAN STORIES"

**December** This discussion was chaired by Sarah Dryden-Peterson, Assistant Professor of Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education, and featured speakers Finbarr O'Reilly and Beauregard Tromp, fellows at the Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard.

### INTERNATIONAL SECURITY & GEOPOLITICS: IN LIGHT OF THE CRISIS IN THE SAHEL

**February** In an event co-sponsored by CAS and numerous other organizations on campus, this event cast light on the security implications of the continually unfolding crisis in the Sahel, particularly in Mali, and generated an important debate that resulted in several new scholarly collaborations on the topic.

### AFRICA RESEARCH SEMINAR, "HUMANITARIAN EARLY WARNING: PROGRESS AND COMPLEXITY" WITH JENNIFER LEANING

**February** Professor at the Harvard School of Public Health and the Harvard Medical School, and Director of the FXB Center for Health and Human Rights, Leaning is a world expert on early warning in response to war and disaster, human rights and international humanitarian law in crisis settings. This seminar examined social, cultural, economic, and political dimensions of armed conflict and post-conflict reconstruction in sub-Saharan Africa. Sarah Dryden-Peterson, assistant professor at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, chaired the seminar.

### HIPHOP: THE LINGUA FRANCA OF THE WORLD'S YOUTH

**February** Co-sponsored by CAS and the Cambridge Public Library in celebration of Black History Month, Professor Marcyliena Morgan brought her expertise on contemporary African-American music to a wide audience. Professor Morgan is the Executive Director of Harvard's HipHop Archive, the only archive of its kind in the world.

### MALI'S DISAPPEARING ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE: IS THERE A SOLUTION?

**March** CAS co-sponsored this presentation by Susan McIntosh of Rice University with Harvard's Standing Committee on Archaeology, which brought archeologists, historians, anthropologists, and a range of other scholars together to examine the intersection between archeological conservation and civil war.





### 4TH ANNUAL AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE: "VISIBLE CHANGE IN AFRICA: ONE INNOVATION AT A TIME"

**March** This annual conference is a collaboration between students at the Harvard Kennedy School, the Harvard Law School, the Harvard Graduate School of Education, the Harvard Graduate School of Design, the Harvard Medical School, the Harvard School of Public Health, and Harvard College. The event brought together hundreds of scholars, practitioners, policymakers, and professionals from across the US and the African continent to address the theme of innovative approaches to development across Africa.

### DBI LUNCHTIME DISCUSSION WITH XOLELA MANGCU: "BIKO: A BIOGRAPHY"

**April** This event featured a discussion of the first comprehensive biography of the exceptional and inspirational leader Stephen Biko, who changed South African history. Author Xolela Mangcu is Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of Cape Town.

### CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM AND NATIONAL UNITY: THE CASE OF GHANA

**April** This event examined whether, and how, the process of shaping a constitution can build national unity and regional integration. It featured reflections by Dr. Raymond Atuguba, SJD 2004, W.E.B. Du Bois Fellow Fall 2011, Executive Director of Ghana's Constitution Reform Commission, and principal architect of Ghana's newly drafted constitution. Professor William Forbath, among the nation's leading legal and constitutional historians, also offered comments.

### 4TH ANNUAL AFRICAN LANGUAGES IN THE DISCIPLINES CONFERENCE

**April** The Harvard African Languages Program in the Department of African and African American Studies and CAS presented this annual event. The ALD aims to engage a diverse range of scholars and African heritage communities in serious discussion about the contributions of African languages to the disciplines. The event was followed by a CAS-hosted reception and dinner to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the African Language Program at Harvard.



Award-winning author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie.

### AFRICAN STUDIES WORKSHOP ANNUAL CONFERENCE "EXTRACTIVE ECONOMIES AND THE STATE IN CONTEMPORARY AFRICA"

**April** The first annual conference in conjunction with the Harvard Africa Workshop featured presentations by Christopher Alden (London School of Economics), Brenda Chalfin (University of Florida), Keith Breckenridge (University of Witwatersrand), Lauren Coyle (PhD candidate, University of Chicago), James Smith (University of California, Davis), Filipe Calvão (PhD candidate, University of Chicago), and Joshua Walker (PhD candidate, University of Chicago). The keynote address entitled *A Rightful Share: Distributive Politics Beyond Gift and Market* was presented by Professor James Ferguson of Stanford University.

# FACULTY PLANNING RETREAT

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## IN ADDITION TO ITS PROGRAMMATIC AGENDA, CAS HAS MADE SIGNIFICANT EFFORTS TO DEVELOP LONG-TERM PLANS AND STRATEGIC INITIATIVES.

To this end, CAS hosted its first University-wide planning retreat in December 2011. The event drew fifty individuals from across Harvard, including faculty from the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and the Professional Schools, as well as key representatives from the Provost's Office and University Development Office. Also in attendance were directors from peer area studies centers, including the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies (DRCLAS), the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs (WCFIA), the Asia Center, and the South Asia Institute.

Highlights of the retreat included Catherine Duggan, Assistant Professor of Business Administration and Berol Corporation Fellow in Business, Government, and International Economy at the Harvard Business School, leading a comprehensive discussion and brainstorming session using the Harvard Business School's case method. Participants were consistently struck by the "Afro-optimism" in the discussion — which all agreed would have been absent a decade earlier. From this retreat emerged CAS's overarching and unifying programmatic theme "Africa Rising?"

The sub-themes that emerged from the session will continue to guide CAS's initiatives for the next five years. They include:

- Africa's role in the Global South and the leading indicators (economic, political, and social/cultural) emerging from the continent;
- Changing economies, politics, and faces of capitalism;
- State transformations, social order, and the problem of crime;
- Health and crises of reproduction;
- The paradoxes of the technology revolution;
- The transformations and contradictions embedded in urbanization.

The retreat was also an opportunity to engage with peer area studies centers at Harvard. As CAS is a relative newcomer, particularly in terms of programmatic size, to DRCLAS and WCFIA, our position has been to learn from the successes of our peers, while at the same time remaining open to innovative programs and institutional structures. Based upon feedback from our colleagues at the retreat, it became clear that CAS has much to offer in terms of innovation, even as the more seasoned centers make an important contribution based on experience. Building upon past collaborations on Afro-Latin America, we also explored continued synergies. In particular, CAS is planning deeper programmatic and research collaborations with our peers in the Asia Center and the South Asia Institute.

Finally, the retreat focused on pedagogical innovation and the ways in which CAS can facilitate cross-school teaching. There is high demand from Harvard undergraduates to work with faculty at the Professional Schools, while many faculty members across the University are eager to co-teach in the College, as well as in the Professional Schools. CAS already has in place cross-school mentoring initiatives, and is now embarking on cross-faculty teaching, including sending undergraduates to Africa with Harvard faculty. During the summer of 2012, fifteen students traveled with Thomas Burke from the Harvard Medical School to Kisumu, Kenya, to study global healthcare technologies, while another eleven traveled to Zanzibar, Tanzania where faculty from the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and the Harvard School of Public Health collaborated under the theme of "Resilience and Transformation." Going forward, CAS is spearheading January-term programs that will facilitate undergraduate students working with Professional School faculty at research and study-abroad sites throughout the African continent.



# AFRICAN STUDIES WORKSHOP

In July 2012, Professors Jean and John Comaroff joined the Harvard faculty, each as Professor of African and African American Studies, Professor of Anthropology, and Oppenheimer Research Fellow in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. The impact of the Comaroffs's arrival at Harvard has been very significant, and is having a seismic effect on the African Studies community around the globe.

In conjunction with the arrival of the Comaroffs, CAS unveiled a new initiative: the African Studies Workshop. Since its kickoff event in September 2012, this endeavor has emerged as one of the foremost Africanist intellectual think-tanks worldwide, impacting not only Africanist scholarship, but also Africa-focused practitioners around the world. To date, the 17 workshop videos accessible online have been viewed over 16,000 times. Led by Professors Comaroff, White, and Elkins—though inclusive of

Africanist colleagues across Harvard and throughout the Boston area—the weekly Workshop is framed by the rubric of “Africa Rising?”. In addition, there is a unique student component, led by Professors Comaroff and White, whereby students from across the University take a for-credit weekly seminar that is integrated into the public discussions.

During the first year, the Workshop took on large conceptual themes, paying attention to the “big picture” in grasping contemporary African economies, societies, legalities, and cultures. The year began with Professor Achille Mbembe speaking on *Africa in Theory*, and continued with talks by Charles Piot (*After Colonialism*), Janet Roitman (*Africa, Otherwise*), John Mugane (*Linguistic Incarceration: Rethinking Language Learning from the Global South*), Kerry Chance (“Where There is Fire, There is Politics”:





Ungovernability in Democratic South Africa), and Julie Livingston (After Antiretrovirals, During Cancer, Before Death in an African Oncology Ward), among others. Video footage of many of the presentations is available on CAS's website ([africa.harvard.edu](http://africa.harvard.edu)).

Over the next four years, the workshop will address topics that encourage an examination of the ways in which emerging patterns, processes, and phenomena in Africa give clues to the present and future of the world at large, including:

- New Patterns of Social Life and their Material Underpinnings;
- The Present and Future of Public Health and its Legal Scaffoldings;
- Emergent Forms of Cultural Production and Media;
- Old and New Faiths and Populist Politics;
- The 21st Century Scramble for Africa;
- The State of "the State" in Africa and Elsewhere;
- Belonging, Borders, and Identity;
- The Question of Corruption, Criminality, and Social Order;
- Population Movements, Capital Flows, and Citizenship.

The Workshop's inaugural year culminated in its first annual conference, entitled *Extractive Economies and the State in Contemporary Africa*, which featured presentations by eight notable Africanist scholars, as well as a keynote address entitled "A Rightful Share: Distributive Politics Beyond Gift and Market" delivered by Professor James Ferguson of Stanford University. An edited volume based on the conference's outputs is planned for 2014.



### STUDENTS' ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS AND ASPIRATIONS CONTINUE TO BE A CRUCIAL COMPONENT OF CAS'S MISSION.

To this end, CAS offers considerable support to students through travel grants for research and study abroad in Africa, as well as through funding for Africa-focused events and programs on campus. In addition, CAS organizes numerous student-oriented events and workshops, including those hosted during January-term. The demand for student funding and mentoring is significant, and CAS works assiduously to keep pace with the increasing interest in Africa on the part of our undergraduate and graduate student populations. Over fifty students and at least a dozen student organizations receive CAS funding each year. In addition, through its Title VI grant, CAS provides at least six year-long, and a dozen summer-long, Foreign Language and Area Studies grants.

Developing study abroad and January-term programs for Harvard students in Africa and on campus is an important priority for CAS. In the summer of 2012 two new study abroad programs were launched in Kisumu, Kenya and Zanzibar, Tanzania, under the direction of Professors Thomas Burke (Kisumu), Caroline Elkins (Zanzibar), and John Mugane (Zanzibar). In June 2013, Professors Jean and John Comaroff launched a new program in South Africa. During January Term, CAS now sponsors a Ghanaian Dance Class, which is open to all Harvard students, and is led by instructor Nani Agbeli, the director of Woezo Drum, Dance and Arts of Ghana, West Africa. Known for his energy, athleticism, and precision on stage, the charismatic Agbeli is one of the leading Ghanaian dancers of his generation and is able to energize and inspire a wide range of students.

Another important component of CAS's work with students is risk management. Each spring CAS partners with the Harvard Global Health Institute (HGHI) and the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies to present a two-day intensive pre-departure "boot camp" program for students traveling to Africa and Latin America. The program focuses on safety, cultural sensitivity and general preparedness. In addition, CAS has sought to systematize its risk management and student departure program by conducting situation analyses in Africa. In June 2012, for example, CAS staff member Elise Noël visited Johannesburg and Durban South Africa, and met with Harvard students. This engagement offered CAS the opportunity to evaluate student experiences and needs, and together with other debriefing programs, has helped to inform future pre-departure orientation programs as well as risk-management efforts more broadly.





## MARU-A-PULA SUMMER PROGRAM

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CAS CONTINUES TO FACILITATE THE MARU-A-PULA SUMMER PROGRAM, A FULLY-FUNDED, EIGHT-WEEK OPPORTUNITY FOR SIX HARVARD UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS TO WORK AND LIVE AT THE MARU-A-PULA SCHOOL IN GABORONE, BOTSWANA.

One of Southern Africa's top secondary schools, Maru-a-Pula collaborates with CAS to employ Harvard interns during the term to share their experiences and expertise with Maru-a-Pula students. The Maru-a-Pula Summer Program offers interns a chance to gain field experience in an African community, through teaching, tutoring, and student mentorship, as well as exploring the cultural richness of Botswana and the entire Southern African region. The program is supported by generous funding from Harvard alumnus Mr. James Rothenberg.

*Photo: Maru-a-Pula Summer Program 2013 interns with Botswana's former President Quett Masire.*





## STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

### ZANZIBAR, TANZANIA

This six-week program, held in Zanzibar, offers all levels of Swahili instruction as well as an interdisciplinary African Studies course that examines international development through the lens of resilience studies. In 2012 eleven students participated in the program, engaging in class discussions, fieldwork, language training, and a final project. An intensive Swahili training option allowed six undergraduate students to benefit from the FLAS grant, which covered tuition, room and board for the program.

In the context of Zanzibar—an island that is rich with history and culture—students explored the concepts of resilience and transformation, examining how households cope with and respond to a variety of economic and environmental challenges that accompany international development. Throughout the course students traversed Zanzibar's Stone Town, the epicenter of culture, development, and tourism on the island, as well as the peri-urban and rural agricultural areas of the island. The program included a home-stay, allowing students to be fully immersed in the local culture and language.

The Zanzibar program was put on hiatus in 2013, to allow for the launch of the program in South Africa, and for the course to be re-shaped to reflect students' evaluations, as well as the offerings of other study abroad programs at Harvard. The course will be offered again in the summer of 2014.



### SOUTH AFRICA

Modeled on their extremely successful summer course in African Studies taught through the University of Chicago for the past twelve years, Jean and John Comaroff inaugurated Harvard's first study abroad program in South Africa during the summer of 2013. Fifteen students spent nine weeks on the



program, which includes lectures and experiential learning in Cape Town, Johannesburg, and Kruger National Park. The final three weeks of the program, which are located in the northeastern edges of the country, allowed students to experience a homestay in a rural chiefdom as part of a "pedagogic safari."

Students participating in the South Africa program engage in rigorous intellectual exploration, in both formal and informal settings throughout the country, from a multidisciplinary perspective. The program investigates South Africa's experience as a new democracy; the cultural, economic, and political past-and-present of its indigenous populations; and what its contemporary history has to teach the world at large about a range of critical social issues.

South Africa provides a fascinating and unique context within which to examine African societies and cultures, and to understand the legacy of colonialism

## STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

on twenty-first-century social and political institutions. The program aims to create a reflective environment for students to relate their experiences and gain a deeper understanding of their lives back home in the United States.

### KISUMU, KENYA

Led by Professor Thomas Burke, students in this program explore diverse approaches for using innovations and technologies to foster transformative and sustainable healthcare improvements in Africa. Closely mentored student teams design, develop, and test their own innovations.

African governments are searching for ways to harness the power of science, technology, and innovation to foster transformation in healthcare delivery. The forces of globalization are significantly influencing their strategies. International development agencies are similarly rethinking their approaches in light of the opportunities provided by rapid advances in science and technology.

Understanding the greatest challenges and opportunities for change will lay the foundation upon which the students will explore diverse approaches for integrating and adopting innovations and new technologies into a healthcare delivery system.

The six-week intensive program, held on the campus of Great Lakes University in Kisumu, in western Kenya, uses an interdisciplinary approach and emphasizes the importance of teamwork in the design and implementation of innovations and technologies. It demonstrates to the students that all innovations, as beneficial as they may be, must be integrated into local contexts to be successful.





## AS A NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF AFRICA, HARVARD AND CAS HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO REACH OUT TO THE BROADER WORLD OF EDUCATORS INTERESTED IN AFRICA AND ITS DIASPORA.

As such, CAS has spent the last two years exploring new initiatives to bring Harvard's Africa-related intellectual resources to classrooms around the world. Internet technology and evidence-based reporting are at the heart of CAS's outreach efforts, but we also continue to deploy more traditional models, including direct engagement with K-12 educators in their classrooms, and ours. Towards this end, CAS has paired with other National Resource Centers at Harvard, including the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies and the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, in offering teacher workshops and training sessions.

**Highlights from the past two years' outreach efforts include:**

- Online modules for educators hosted on [www.africa.harvard.edu](http://www.africa.harvard.edu). CAS hosted a teachers' workshop to help educators integrate these materials into their lesson plans. Topics include:

- South African Apartheid and the Transition to Democracy
- Islam in Africa
- The Epic of Sunjata, First Emperor of Ancient Mali
- Kenya and the (Boston) Marathon
- Introduction to Africa: Geography and Culture
- Democracy and Elections in Senegal, Mali, and Ghana

- Global Literature Online Book Group for teachers using virtual classroom technology. CAS presented Chimamanda Adichie's novel *Purple Hibiscus* with discussion led by Boston College Professor Akua Sarr and Harvard doctoral student Kristen Roupenian.

- Weeklong teacher workshops at Harvard. Topics include:

- Using Literature and Film in the Humanities Classroom.
- Teaching Water: Global Perspectives on a Resource in Crisis

- Global international film series in conjunction with the Harvard Summer School in Cambridge. Films included *Skin* (2008) and *The First Grader* (2010).

- After-school program in African Studies in collaboration with the Citizen's Schools program at the Dever-McCormack School, in Dorchester, MA.

- African Studies events at the Cambridge Public Library, including:

- How the Disappearance of Africa's Wildlife Affects its People, by ecologist Hillary Young of Harvard's Center for the Environment
- The Politics of Remembering King, led by Harvard College Fellow of African and African American Studies, Dr. Kellie Carter Jackson
- Hip-hop – The Lingua Franca of the World's Youth with Professor Marcyliena Morgan, Director of the HipHop Archive at the W.E.B. Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research.

- Community event at the Boston Children's Museum's Centennial Celebration, celebrating West African Fashion.



# HARVARD SOUTH AFRICA FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

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THE HARVARD SOUTH AFRICA FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM (HSAFP) IS A FLAGSHIP PROGRAM AT HARVARD, AND ONE WHOSE HISTORY STRETCHES ALL THE WAY BACK TO PRESIDENT DEREK BOK.

President Bok inaugurated the HSAFP in 1979, with the intention of supporting South Africans who were educationally disadvantaged by law and resource allocation under apartheid. Since that time, successive Harvard presidents, including President Drew Faust, have awarded fellowships for a year of study in one or more of the University's faculties or schools. Over the years more than one hundred and forty fellowships have been awarded to South Africans who, since their return to South Africa, have occupied significant positions of leadership at the local and national levels.



*Morné Edas, HSAFP Fellow 2012-2013, at Harvard Business School's Advanced Management graduation*

The HSAFP Fellows in residence during the 2011-2012 year included Jesmane Boggenpoel, who participated in the Harvard Kennedy School Mason Fellows Program; Nicola Cloete and Nobantu Mbeki, both of whom spent their fellowship year as special students at the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences; Fatima Bahn, who attended the LLM program at Harvard Law School; and Bongani Zulu, who participated in the Advanced Management Program at Harvard Business School.

2012-2013 Fellows included Hugo Canham and Fatima Cassim, attending as special students in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences; Morne Edas, who participated in the Advanced Management Program at the Harvard Business School; Alvino van Schalkwyk, who participated in the LLM program at the Harvard Law School; and Alfredeen Jenneker, who attended the Mason Fellows Program at the Harvard Kennedy School.

Each June, the HSAFP Selection Committee meets in Johannesburg, South Africa, to interview candidates for the following academic year. Thanks to the generous support of the Oppenheimer Family, these interviews take place at the Brenthurst Library. In addition, Mrs. Jennifer Oppenheimer sits on the selection board, together with Ivan Jonker (former HSAFP fellow), Professor John Mugane, Director of the HSAFP, and Professors Comaroff and Professor Elkins.



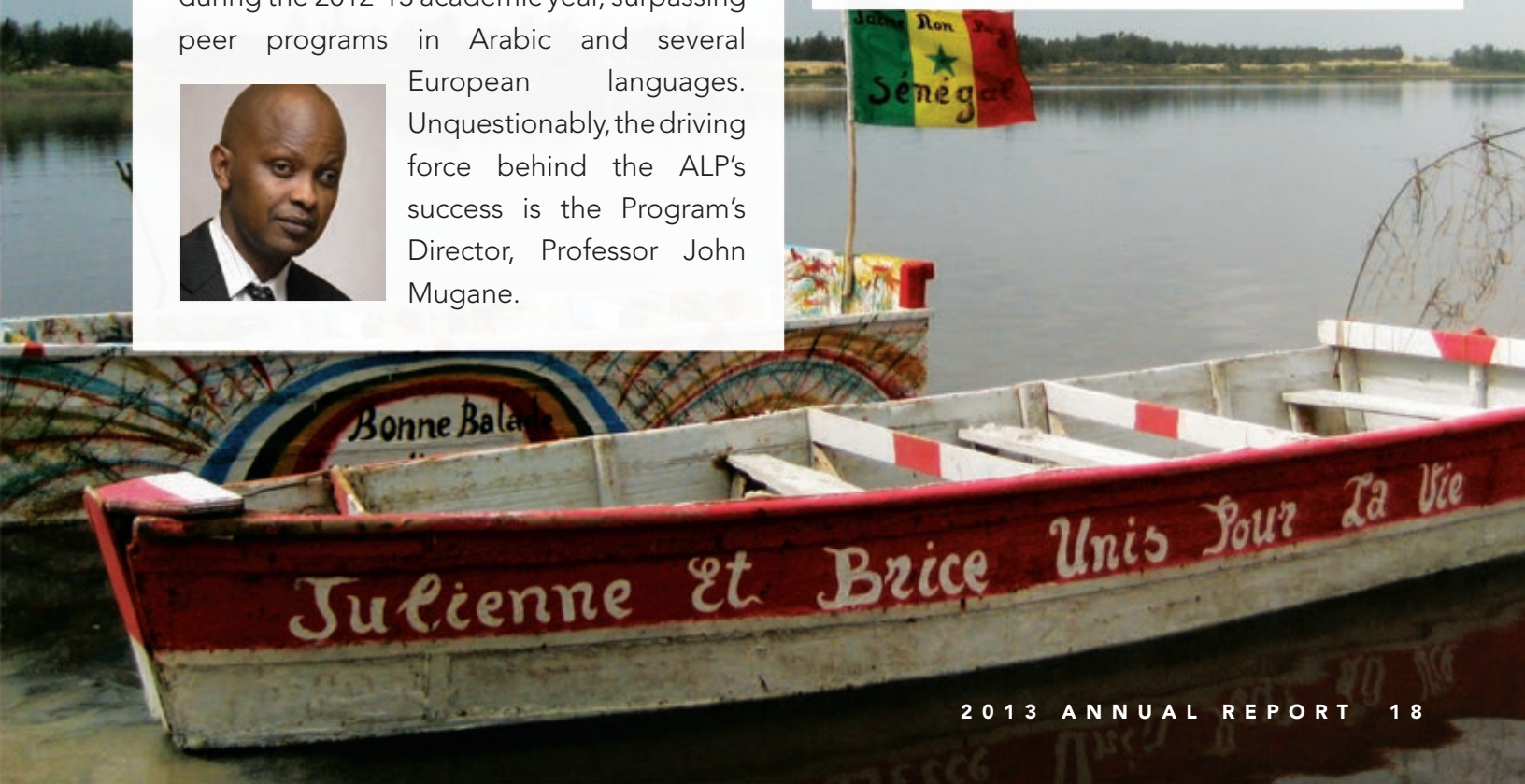
# AFRICAN LANGUAGE PROGRAM

The study of African languages is the backbone to our University-wide program, and to the training of our students, both in the College and across the Professional Schools. The concept behind this program is that a deep understanding of Africa can only occur through an appreciation of the vernacular forms of communication and expression. The ALP's signature pedagogic philosophy, therefore, is to impart competency in African languages as they are spoken in Africa today. Celebrating its tenth anniversary in 2012-13, Harvard's African Language Program (ALP) continues to build upon and strengthen its world-class instruction in over thirty African languages, more than any other university program of its kind in the world. Nearly 300 students enrolled in African language classes during the 2012-13 academic year, surpassing peer programs in Arabic and several European languages.



Unquestionably, the driving force behind the ALP's success is the Program's Director, Professor John Mugane.

CAS, through its US Department of Education Title VI grant, provides funding for five advanced African language instructors in the ALP. Through the Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) program, CAS dispersed nearly \$300,000 in grant funds to undergraduate and graduate students for advanced language study on the African continent. Additionally, CAS also spearheaded Harvard's first professional language training program. Developed for the Harvard School of Public Health's human rights program in Sierra Leone led by Theresa Betancourt, this new endeavor will be expanded in the upcoming academic year to the Harvard medical School's program in KwaZulu Natal and the Harvard Law School's program in Ghana.





# AFRICAMAP

AfricaMap is housed at the Center for Geographic Analysis at Harvard University, and is supported by the Committee on African Studies, the Hutchins Center, and the Department of African and African American Studies, among others. Since its beta release in November of 2008, the application's framework has been implemented in several geographic locations with different research foci, including metro Boston, East Asia, the city of Paris as

well as an array of African country map sites. In June of 2011 the AfricaMap model was expanded into WorldMap, and additional tools and functionality were added that allow users anywhere to upload maps and create their own set of map layers. The goal of AfricaMap, and WorldMap more broadly, is to lower barriers for scholars who wish to explore, visualize, edit, collaborate with, and publish geo-information (maps).

In the past year, 300,000+ people have used WorldMap, and contributed thousands of data layers. AfricaMap (<http://worldmap.harvard.edu/africamap>) remains one of the richest in content of the WorldMap applications. There are now thousands of additional maps on Africa and the African diaspora created by scholars at Harvard and around the world.

WorldMap is being used in a growing number of classes at Harvard and at other universities. In addition, technology-level collaborations are ongoing with several groups including Amazon.com, United Nations University, Cornell University, MIT, University of Pittsburgh, Um Al-Qura University (Saudi Arabia), the Boston Area Research Initiative, the Virtue Foundation, the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Studies, and the Harvard Institute for Quantitative Social Science.





### CAS'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS CONSTITUTE ONE PART OF CAS'S GREATER LONG-TERM VISION FOR HARVARD AND AFRICAN STUDIES.

In the year ahead, CAS plans to move forward with several new initiatives, while maintaining and expanding its key programs and funding sources. These include:

**Title VI/FLAS Renewal** Harvard's designation as a National Resource Center for African Studies is the result of a successful grant application for Title VI/FLAS funding from the US Department of Education. Renewable every four years, this grant will be resubmitted again in the spring of 2014 to the Department of Education. The application process requires the compilation of data and statistics on Africa-related activities from across the university, including enrollment figures for all Africa-related courses – some three hundred in all; the African Language Program statistics; the dollar amount of spending on fellows, programs, visitors, faculty, staff; and the like. Quantitative measures of our programmatic outcomes also form part of the application process. CAS has devoted the efforts of numerous faculty members, staff, and a team of interns to this project.

**China and Africa Collaboration** China's role in Africa is perhaps one of the most important topics facing us in the 21st century. CAS is currently collaborating with several of the prominent Asia centers at Harvard to interrogate the many questions arising from China's current investments and presences in Africa. The first part of a multi-phased process of engagement is currently planned for Harvard's Shanghai office in the summer of 2014.

**Africa (Still) In Motion** CAS plans to reprise its ambitious and highly successful 2010 event, *Africa in Motion*, launched by President Drew Faust and attended by some 600 people. The event, slated for the fall of 2014, will showcase work in and about Africa by Harvard faculty, students, programs, centers, and initiatives from across the University, using multi-media and interactive installations. In addition, the event

will have a strong intellectual component, with three cross-disciplinary panels, featuring faculty from across the University, engaging in CAS's overarching theme, "Africa Rising?".

**African Studies and Cape Town Office** CAS has received all of the necessary internal approvals to launch Harvard's first international office in Africa. To be sited in Cape Town, South Africa, this office will also be an intellectual hub for the training and mentoring of postdoctoral fellows, and a location for online collaborations and the dissemination of knowledge across Africa and beyond. It will also serve as a local public intellectual and alumni gathering site, as South Africa alone is home to over 1,000 Harvard alumni.

**Committee-to-Center Transition and Fundraising** CAS has reached all of the necessary internal benchmarks for transitioning from Committee to Center status. In addition to continued institutionalizing of Center processes and administrative structures, CAS has also apportioned considerable staff time and resources towards fundraising, which is a crucial component to reaching final Center status at the University and to attaining financial self-sufficiency in the long-term. To this end, resource development efforts over the past two years have included the planning and execution of multiple roadshows and one-on-one meetings with potential supporters. Whilst the yield has been modest compared to other centers at the University, CAS raised nearly \$2 million in 2011-2012, with pledges underway for another \$1 million. During the upcoming academic year, CAS will continue in earnest with these efforts, which will include fundraising trips to Africa, Europe, and various parts of the United States.

**Collaborations in Africa** Over the past two years, CAS has forged significant relationships with various universities and other institutional partners in Africa. These include relationship-building efforts in South Africa, Tanzania, Kenya, Rwanda, Nigeria, Botswana, and Ghana, in particular. New conversations are taking place with NBA Africa, and CAS will send representatives to the African Leadership Network's annual conference in Mauritius in October 2013.

# HARVARD COMMITTEE ON AFRICAN STUDIES

## 2012-13 MEMBERS

### **Caroline Elkins\*** (On leave 2012-2013)

Professor of History and Professor of African and African American Studies (FAS)  
Chair of the Harvard Committee on African Studies

### **Lucie White\***

Lewis A. Horvitz Professor of Law (HLS)  
Interim Chair of the Committee on African Studies (2012-2013)

### **Marylyn Martina Addo**

Assistant Professor of Medicine (MGH)

### **Leila Ahmed**

Victor S. Thomas Professor of Divinity (HDS)

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Special Advisor to the Provost for International Studies

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Professor of Indo-Muslim and Islamic Religion and Cultures and Professor of African and African American Studies (FAS)

### **Robert Bates\***

Eaton Professor of the Science of Government and Professor of African and African American Studies (FAS)

### **Theresa Betancourt**

Assistant Professor of Child Health and Human Rights (HSPH)

### **Jacqueline Bhabha**

Lecturer on Law, Lecturer on Social Studies (HLS)  
Director of the Harvard University Committee on Human Rights Studies

### **Suzanne Blier\***

Allen Whitehill Clowes Professor of Fine Art and Professor of African and African American Studies (FAS)

### **David Bloom**

Clarence James Gamble Professor of Economics and Demography (HSPH)

### **Lawrence D. Bobo**

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### **Thomas Burke**

Chief of the Division of Global Health and Human Rights at the Massachusetts General Hospital  
Professor of Surgery (HMS)

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Professor of African and African American Studies, Professor of Anthropology, and Oppenheimer Research Fellow (FAS)

### **John Comaroff\***

Professor of African and African American Studies, Professor of Anthropology, and Oppenheimer Research Fellow. (FAS)

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Associate Professor of Pediatrics (HMS)

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Chair of the Botswana-Harvard AIDS Institute Partnership

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Assistant Clinical Professor (HLS)

### **Wafaie W. Fawzi**

Professor of Nutrition and Epidemiology (HSPH)

### **Deborah D. Foster**

Senior Lecturer on Folklore and Mythology (FAS)  
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### **Henry Louis Gates, Jr.\***

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Associate Professor of Medicine (HMS)

**Patrick Vinck**

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