



# EVENTS

AFRICAN STUDIES PROGRAM  
INDIANA UNIVERSITY

SUMMER 2012

## Celebrating Fifty Years!

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The African Studies Program celebrated its 50th anniversary in October 2011. As noted in last year's preview, the Program was formally established in 1961 when the Ford Foundation awarded a five-year development grant to the Committee on African Studies led by J. Gus Liebenow, a political scientist with expertise on Liberia. Beginning in 1965, funding from the U.S. Department of Education supported the expanding scope of the Program.

The Program has gained international recognition as a leading African Studies program over the years. Its most noteworthy ambassadors are the vast number of alumni who were mentored by African Studies faculty across the disciplines and who have gone on to make their mark in and outside of academia, in the United States and in Africa. Two distinguished alumni offered special lectures on Friday, October 21: Art Historian Dr. Mary Jo Arnoldi (Smithsonian Institution) drew on her long-time research in Mali and her work at the Smithsonian Museum in presenting "From Timbuktu to the National Mall: Performing the Malian Nation on an International Stage." Literary Critic and Film Maker Dr. Manthia Diawara (New York University) engaged the audience with his wide-ranging reflections on "African Cultural Studies between Film and Literature." - *continued on page 7*

## African Lens: Photojournalism of Africa by Africans

An exhibit of photographs by Jacob Otieno and Djibril Sy at the Ivy Tech John Waldron Arts Center, a community venue, marked the beginning of the African Studies Program's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in October 2011. Organized by Eileen Julien (Comparative Literature) and James Kelly (Journalism), the exhibit showcased the art of these photojournalists working on opposite sides of the continent. They train their lenses on the politics, the economies, the lively sports, and the dynamic arts and culture of contemporary Africa. Both of them have won prizes for their work.

Jacob Otieno is the photo editor of The Standard newspaper in Nairobi, Kenya, and oversees the work of twenty-six photojournalists across the country. A photojournalist since 1988, he has covered news events in Kenya and other African countries, including abuses of power, post-election violence, and the bomb-

ing of the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi.

Djibril Sy is currently a free-lance photographer in Senegal who captures the aesthetics of everyday life with his camera. He previously worked for the Panapress News Agency where he covered events in a number of African countries, including various armed conflicts, as well as the World Cup in Asia and Europe.

The well-attended exhibit opening, followed by a reception at the nearby Uptown Café, featured remarks by then IU Provost Karen Hansen, African Studies Program Director Samuel Obeng, exhibit organizers Eileen Julien and James Kelly, and the two photojournalists. Mr. Sy and Mr. Otieno were in residence for ten days making presentations; engaging with students, faculty, and members of the community; and meeting with central Indiana journalists.



## Partnerships with African Institutions

ASP Director **Samuel Obeng** travelled to Ghana May 17-30, 2012, to develop our partnerships with the University of Cape Coast and the University of Ghana-Legon. He also met with administrators from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) in Kumasi. Discussions with deans and department chairs centered on capacity-building, resource sharing, and video conferencing. Faculty exchanges whereby IU faculty would spend a sabbatical leave teaching in Ghana and junior faculty from their institutions would come to IU for a semester working with colleagues and using our libraries were identified as a high priority. African colleagues also expressed a keen interest in team-teaching courses via video-conferencing, skype, and other electronic media as well as in joint workshops or conferences.

Professor **Douglas Horner** (School of Optometry) accompa-



Professors Obeng and Horner at Cape Coast.

nied Professor Obeng to discuss partnerships with the Optometry and Vision Science departments in Cape Coast and Kumasi in the areas of student training, curricular development, and outreach. He has since returned to Cape Coast to spend the fall semester in the Department of Optometry teaching, conducting research, and doing outreach at the Eye Clinic. In addition, he is assisting KNUST's Department of Optometry develop curriculum for their new PhD in Vision Science.

Professor **Angela Ofeibea Amedo** (OD, PhD), Chair of the Department of Optometry at the Kwame Nkrumah Uni-

versity of Science and Technology (KNUST), visited the African Studies Program and the IU School of Optometry from August 7-9 in order to launch the new partnership between IU and KNUST. She discussed possible cooperative activities in the areas of curriculum development, video-conferencing, faculty research and exchange, and student support.

Professor **Maha El Rabbat** (MD), Chair of Public Health, Cairo University, was a guest of the IU Department of Applied Health Science and the African Studies Program from March 20-April 3, 2012. As the first visiting scholar from Egypt since the signing of the memorandum of understanding between the two institutions, she met with colleagues in Public Health and African Studies, and with administrators across the university, to discuss collaboration on research and exchanges.

Akin Adesokan (Comparative Literature), Marion Frank-Wilson (Wells Library), Beth Buggenhagen (Anthropology), Marissa Moorman (History), and Maria Grosz-Ngaté (African Studies) organized a seminar on the relationship between digital technology, online literary and scholarly publications, and the challenges of intellectual property.

Held on April 6, 2012, the seminar launched a multi-year, multi-disciplinary project that endeavors to reflect on the implications of the recent explosive growth of different kinds of outlets for cultural, artistic, and political expressions, all due to the formal and aesthetic possibilities of digital technology. The project puts African pioneers in new media and literary formats in conversation with each other and with academics.

After opening remarks by Vice Provost Tom Gieryn, African Studies Program Director Samuel Obeng, and Comparative Literature Department Chair Bill Johnston, invited participants Miriam Conteh-Morgan (Ohio State University), Stacy Hardy (*Chimurenga*, South Africa), Sean Jacobs (The New School), and Patrice Nganang (SUNY Stony Brook) prepared written reflections in response to a series of questions that framed the issues. Julie Bobay (IU Libraries), Premesh Lalu (University of the Western Cape, South Africa), Jason Jackson (IU Folklore and Ethnomusicology), and Marissa Moorman (IU History) commented on the reflections at the symposium and engaged with the authors. In addition to an open discussion that involved IU scholars Eileen Julien, Michael Martin, Beverly Stoeltje, and Ruth Stone

among others, graduate students Stefan Horowitz (African Studies), Samantha Merritt (Informatics), and Adrien Pouille (Comparative Literature) raised questions for further discussion. The seminar brought out new issues that will be explored in future seminars.

The seminar was supported by the African Studies Program, the IU Multi-Disciplinary Ventures and Seminars Fund, the IU Libraries, and the Departments of Comparative Literature and History.

## New African Media and Literary Initiatives

## Outreach Highlights

The Outreach Program had a very active year of workshops, presentations, and performances.

African Studies Program graduate students and faculty visited over twenty-five Indiana schools and community groups during the past year. Given the increasing ease and popularity of videoconferencing, our affiliates were also able to share their knowledge with schools as far away as California, Florida, and New York. Presentations and performances on West and Southern African music received the most requests but programs on other topics, such as youth and school life, ancient African kingdoms, and the experiences of returned Peace Corps members, were also in demand. A two-week summer workshop on West African music and dance had Bloomington youths and adults actively gaining new skills and cultural knowledge.

Teacher workshops remain an integral component of our Outreach Program. We participated in four workshops across Indiana, organized in collaboration with the Center for Social Studies and International Education and other IU area studies centers. On the invitation of a Jefferson High School teacher in Lafayette, we conducted a workshop on “Politics and Conflict in Africa” that also brought in East and Northeast Africa faculty experts from Purdue University. Responding to teacher interest, this year’s summer institute, held June 18 – 20, focused on environmental issues, current events, and religion. PhD students and faculty presented on topics ranging from palm oil products in West Africa, critical responses to the KONY 2012 campaign, the Boko Haram movement, and Christianity in Africa.

**Library Residencies** The Wells Library African Studies Collection hosted the recipients of the African Studies Program’s summer 2012 library residency awards. The awards are intended to facilitate the use of our rich collections by faculty whose institutions have more limited library and archival resources. Our awards committee selected two fellows from another strong group of applicants.

**James Quirin** (Fisk University) spent two weeks in residence during the month of June 2012. He conducted research for his proposed book of case studies on African resistance and rebellion against foreign incursions during the age of the imperial conquest of Africa in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

Also in June 2012, **Susan Tchabrun** (California State University, Fullerton), did three days of intensive research for her sabbatical leave project “Political Regimes, Visual Regimes: The Political Poster in Africa.” She worked with a large number of posters in our extensive collection from across the continent dealing not only with elections but also with human rights issues or liberation struggles.

### Committee on African and African American Studies (CAAAS), Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis

CAAAS, chaired by Dr. Ramla Bandele (Political Science) during the 2011-2012 academic year, hosted or co-sponsored several guest speakers with support from the ASP:

September 26, 2011 - Dr. Ademola Dasylva (University of Ibadan, Nigeria), “A Nation at the Crossroads: Nigeria’s Nollywood Film Industry and the Emerging Cultures.”

November 30, 2011 - Dr. Kia Caldwell (University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill), “The Racial Politics of Health in Post-‘Racial Democracy’ Brazil.”

March 29, 2012 – Dr. Carole Boyce Davies (Cornell University), “Transnational Black Poetics: Caribbean Connections and Disconnections.”

On February 16, 2012, CAAAS also partnered with the African Students Association and other campus units to sponsor a guest lecture by peace activist and author Ms. Leymah Gbowee, co-winner (with Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and Tawakul Karman of Yemen) of the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize.

# African Languages Program

A big “thank you” to **Abdulwahid Mazrui** and **Sindiswe Lekoba**, who are leaving us after years of teaching in the African languages program. The Kiswahili and isiZulu students will miss you. We wish you well as you take on new challenges.

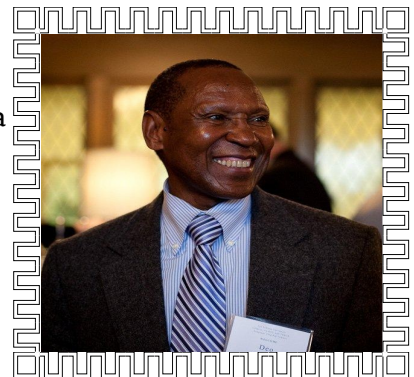
We welcome three new language instructors:

**Mpolokeng Lesetla** will be working with Dr. Betty Dlamini as an isiZulu instructor. Ms. Lesetla comes from the Eastern Cape of South Africa and speaks isiXhosa and Sesotho in addition to isiZulu. She obtained a Bachelor of Arts (Honors) in IsiZulu from the University of KwaZulu-Natal (2011); a Postgraduate Diploma in Public Policy and Social Development (2003); and a Bachelor of Social Studies from the University of Natal-Durban (2002). She is currently pursuing a Master’s Degree in African Studies focusing on language planning issues in South Africa.



**Margaret Mwingira** is a new associate instructor of Kiswahili. Ms. Mwingira taught in Tanzanian high schools for five years after graduating from the University of Dar-Es-Salaam with a Bachelor of Arts with Education (B Ed Honors) in 2001. She attended Stellenbosch University in South Africa from 2007-2010, completing first a Bachelor of Honors in Special Education, and then a Master in Specialized Education (M Ed). While at Stellenbosch University, she served as a tutor in the Department of Curriculum Studies, and a research assistant and administrator in the Department of Educational Psychology. She also did community service, working with special needs learners and those experiencing language challenges in the Municipality of Stellenbosch schools. Prior to joining the African Studies Program, Ms. Mwingira was an instructor at Bradford Woods Outdoor Learning Center of Indiana University in the fields of Environmental Education, Adventure Education, Therapeutic Recreation and Retreats.

**Deogratias K. Tungaraza** joined us as a Kiswahili lecturer last year. Mr. Tungaraza is from Ukerewe in Mwanza Region of Tanzania, where he was schooled. He graduated from the University of East Africa – The University College in Dar-es-Salaam, and later obtained a Post Graduate Diploma in Library Science from the University of Wales in Aberystwyth, UK; and a Certificate in Book Publishing and Printing at the Otava Book Publishing Company, Helsinki, Finland. He has held various posts at the University of Dar-es-Salaam and was Founder Director of the Dar-es-Salaam University Press. Prior to coming to Indiana University, he taught Kiswahili at The Ohio State University and at Louisiana State University.



## Public Lectures 2011-2012

### Fall 2011: "Sex, Death, and Rebirth in Ancient Egypt"

**Dr. Stephen Vinson,  
Near Eastern Languages and Cultures**

September 28: Betsy Bryan, Johns Hopkins University  
"Cultural Revelries in the Egyptian New Kingdom" and

Richard Jasnow, Johns Hopkins University "As for Those Who have Called me Evil, Mut will Call them Evil! A New Praise of the Goddess Mut on a Roman Papyrus Period Papyrus in Florence"

October 26: Solange Bumbaugh, University of Chicago  
"Nubians and the Cult of Isis in Late-Roman Egypt"

### Spring 2012: "Africa, Media, Materiality"

**Dr. Beth Buggenhagen, Anthropology**

February 1 : Vicki Brennan, University of Vermont  
"Hymns, Historical Agency and the Materialization of Spiritual Power in the Cherubim and Seraphim Church"

February 29 : Mary Hark, University of Wisconsin  
"Creating Community through the Book Arts: Art, Craft and Environmental Conservation in the Greater Ashanti Region of Ghana"

March 7 : Brian Larkin, Barnard College  
"Techniques of Inattention: The Mediality of Loud-speakers in Nigeria"

April 11: Stacy Hardy, *Chimurenga Magazine*, Cape Town, South Africa "Disgrace and the Importance of Laughing at JM Coetzee"

Wednesday Seminars

### Tuesday Noon Talks

Our 2011-2012 Noon Talk series highlighted the range of research carried out by African Studies Program faculty, Ph.D. students, and Master's degree students, as well as the work of several visiting African artists and professionals. Presentations spanned the disciplines from anthropology, art history, business, cultural studies, and education to geology, history, library science, and photography. Details can be found in the archive on our web site at [www.indiana.edu/~afrist](http://www.indiana.edu/~afrist).

## Liberian Collections Project

With the March 2012 rollout of the 5,560 image William V. S. Tubman Photograph Collection, the Indiana University Liberian Collections (IULC) completed its eight-year project: *Rescuing Liberian History—Preserving the Papers and Photographs of William V. S. Tubman, Liberia's Longest Serving President*. The project involved collaboration with the Liberian Center for National Documents and Records Agency (CNDRA),

the Indiana University Digital Library Program and the IU African Studies Collection. The British Library's Endangered Archives Programme, the IU African Studies Program, the Cooperative Africana Materials Project, and the Title VI National Resource Centers for Africa provided project support.

Tubman (1895-1971) served as Liberian President from 1944 to 1971 and travelled extensively, visiting many African countries both before

and after independence, as well as Haiti, Trinidad, the United States, and many European countries. He also received frequent return visits by heads of state and other high-ranking officials. The Tubman Photography Collection documents these visits and other official presidential functions such as dedications, formal receptions and inaugurations. Tubman family members also appear in their official capacities as well as in family photographs. - *continued on next page*

## Celebrating Fifty Years! ... continued from cover page



Faculty, students, and friends of the African Studies Program socialized after the Distinguished Alumni Lectures in the soaring triangular atrium of the IU Art Museum, enjoying an array of food and drink to the lively beat of Afro Hoo-sier International.

During a panel entitled “50 Years of African Studies at IU,” held on Saturday, October 22, former Program directors Patrick O’Meara, Brian Winchester, and John Hanson, and current director Samuel Obeng reflected on issues and events during their tenure. They were succeeded by graduate students Brittany Sheldon (Art History), Hassan Wahab (Political Science), and Katherine Wiley (Anthropology) who spoke about their experiences on the panel titled “African Studies: Meanings and Futures.”

Following these panels, Executive Associate Dean Jean Robinson proposed a toast to the Program at a champagne reception with music by Kwesi Brown.

## Liberian Collections Project ... continued

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The Tubman Photography collection is now publicly available and can be accessed on Indiana University’s *Image Collections Online* website at <http://webapp1.dlib.indiana.edu/images/splash.htm?scope=lcp>. The Tubman Presidential Papers are available on Indiana University’s *Archives Online* website at <http://purl.dlib.indiana.edu/iudl/findingaids/lcp/VAB6923>.

In addition to completing the Tubman collections project, IULC added the W.A. & Lucille Whitten Collection of papers, recordings, photography and artifacts. Whitten was a USAID Education Officer in Liberia in the 1960s and again in the late



Liberian President William V. S. Tubman shares a meal with Ghanaian President Kwame Nkrumah and Ethiopian Emperor Haile Selassie. (W.V.S. Tubman Photography Collection)

1970’s. Other collections added were anthropologist and development specialist Jeanette Carter’s Post-Conflict Reports from the Government of Liberia and international organizations and law professor Peter Sevareid’s Liberian research papers, including his materials from the Liberian Customary Law Project. The Liberian Newspaper Collection nearly doubled in

size to 20,000 issues spanning the 1950s to 2011, especially strengthening its holdings for the Tolbert and Taylor presidencies as well as the military or interim governments of Doe, Sawyer, Kpormakpor, Sankawulo, Perry and Bryant.

Finally, the IULC and the IU Digital Library Program (IUDLP) collaborated with the Liberian Center for National Documents and Records Agency (CNDRA) in 2011-12 to put a Digital Scanning Center into production to digitize nearly a million pages of Liberian land deed registers dating back to the early 1830s. A three-person IULC/IUDLP team trained the first group of 12 digital scanning and data input technicians at the beginning of this project.

# Graduate Students in African Studies GSAS

The Graduate Students in African Studies (GSAS) hosted their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Symposium on March 31, 2012. The theme of this year's symposium was *Looking Back, Facing Forward: (Re) Imagining a Global Africa*. Participants from Indiana University as well as from the University of Washington, University of Illinois, and Northwestern University presented their research on three well-attended panels. Dr. Olúfémi Táíwò, Professor of Philosophy and Director of Global African Studies at Seattle University, gave the keynote address and joined graduate students in a pre-symposium luncheon and a post-symposium celebration.

The GSAS Symposium received generous financial support from a number of campus units and departments, including the IU Student Association, ASP, SPEA, SLIS, Philosophy, Folklore & Ethnomusicology, History, and History of Art. GSAS would like to thank everyone who helped to make the symposium a success.

## *New Directions in African Cinema Film Series*

Graduate students Steffan Horowitz (African Studies) and Nzingha Kendall (American Studies) organized three film evenings to showcase a variety of films (both shorts and feature films) that have been produced by young Africans living on the continent as well as abroad. Each screening was followed by a discussion.

### **March 8 – AFRICAN/AMERICAN?: First Generation Africans in America**

*me broniba* by Akosua Adoma Owusu (Ghana/US)

*African Booty Scratcher* by Nikyatu Jusu (Nigeria/US)

*Bronx Princess* by Yoni Brook and Musa Syeed (Ghana/US)

### **March 22 – SCI-FI FLICKS: Alien Invasions, Post-Apocalyptic Life**

*Pumzi* by Wanuri Kahiu (Kenya)

*Alive in Joburg* by Neill Blomkamp (South Africa)

### **March 29 – AFRICAN ACTION: Shoot 'em up! Get the Girl!**

*Viva Riva!* by Djo Tunda Wa Munga (DRC)

## Spotlight on Faculty Research: **Lauren MacLean** (Political Science) **Jennifer Brass** (School of Public and Environmental Affairs)



We spent most of June 2012 in Kenya, conducting field interviews for our research on small-scale, off-grid electricity generation (known as "distributed generation" (DG)) in developing countries (Co-PI with Sanya Carley of SPEA). Generously funded by the Mitsui Environmental Fund, our trip was designed as the first of several visits to sub-Saharan Africa to study how individuals, community groups, NGOs, private companies and the government are working to provide people with small-scale solar photovoltaic, wind, bio-gas and hydro-power electricity for both home and office use. In Kenya, small scale solutions - ranging from 5 watt solar panels powering a single solar lantern to million-dollar hydro-power systems powering an entire community - are necessary, as the national grid of power lines reaches only

20% of the population. Substantial variation exists, however, in the way that they are provided, and in the location of provision across the country, and across both East Africa and sub-Saharan Africa more generally. Our research aims to understand not only the political, economic, organizational and policy causes of this variation, but also the developmental outcomes of access to small-scale electricity solutions at the individual and community level. To begin this process on the ground, we visited approximately one dozen locations across five of the country's eight provinces, and conducted over forty interviews with representatives from the Kenyan government, NGOs, donor and multilateral aid agencies, businesses and with regular Kenyans.



## African Students' Research Award

We congratulate **Nana Amoah** (African American and African Diaspora Studies) and **Hassan Wahab** (Political Science), recipients of the 2012 African Students Research Award!

**Nana Amoah** is interested in the history of Ghanaian women in the popular music industry. For her dissertation, she is researching the experiences of women musicians spanning several generations. Her project draws on the knowledge she gained as a research assistant (2008-2010) to the Popular Culture Project / Women's Empowerment Program at the Centre for Gender Studies and Advocacy, University of Ghana. She has received a number of international and local awards, and is currently an associate instructor in African American and African Diaspora Studies. Ms. Amoah obtained her master's degree (M.Phil) in ethnomusicology and her undergraduate degree in music from the University of Ghana, Legon.



**Hassan Wahab** is planning to write a dissertation on "Democracy, Political Parties, and Social Policy in Africa: A Comparative Study of Universal Health Insurance in Ghana, 1992-Present." In addition to studying relevant written records, he will be interviewing political party leaders, and members of parliament and their staff, who were involved in the crafting of universal healthcare legislation; parliamentary debates concerning the legislation; and in policy implementation. Mr. Wahab has already co-published (with A.B. Assensoh) an article on Ghana's health insurance law in *African and Asian Studies* (2008). He holds master's degrees in Political Studies (University of Guelph) and African American and African Diaspora Studies (Indiana University). He has been the managing editor of *Africa Today* since 2008.

## Carleton T. Hodge Prize

Congratulations to **Katherine Wiley** (Anthropology), winner of the 2012 Carleton T. Hodge Prize for excellence in African Studies!

**Katherine Wiley** is currently writing her Ph.D. dissertation titled "Being Haratin? Meanings of Gender, Race, and Social Status in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania." Her dissertation research in Mauritania was funded by the Wenner-Gren Foundation, and her pre-dissertation research was made possible by grants from the Social Science Research Council and the West African Research Association. She has already presented aspects of her research at national and international conferences and has two articles forthcoming. Ms. Wiley studied Arabic to the upper advanced level with the support of FLAS fellowships. Prior to coming to Indiana University, she taught English in Mauritania as a Peace Corps volunteer and spent one year at the University of Dar es Salaam on a Rotary Ambassadorial Fellowship. She has participated actively in African Studies Program activities throughout her graduate career and has presented on African topics at teacher workshops, and in videoconferences with school classes, in Indiana and beyond.



# Student Research in Africa

## Lewis Addison Bradford (Anthropology)

With the assistance of a Skomp pre-dissertation research award I spent the summer in the Moroccan city of Meknes, located approximately two hours east of the capital Rabat. My project includes several locales but focuses primarily on the small oasis community of Akka, located in Morocco's southern desert province of Tata. Akka's ethnic makeup is complicated by the fact that a majority of Akka's residents are Black Moroccans who, despite their linguistic and cultural affinity with their countrymen, are generally consigned to an ambiguous third ethnic category separate from both Arabs and Berbers. They are also relegated to the bottom of the social hierarchy because they are perceived as having origins outside of Morocco and outside of the history of Islam. Although some Akkawi families engage in a minimal amount of oasis agriculture and an even lower amount of pastoralism, the economy of Akka is very limited. Consequently, a majority of families are forced to send their sons and husbands north in order to find jobs to support and maintain their villages. Ultimately, these migrant networks embed the local cultural processes of Akka into broader social movements that include a transnational Berber rights movement, environmental activism, and the Arab spring.



Bradford with his host family in Meknes.

This summer was spent traversing the streets of Meknes, as well as the nearby city of Fes, speaking with migrants from Akka and talking with them about life in the desert, life in the city and why most, if not all, of them dreamed of returning to Akka to live and work. I also drank a lot of tea. With the assistance of the Arab American Language Institute in Fez I was able to secure a homestay with two different Moroccan families who also told me a great deal about Morocco as well as life in Meknes. These homestays also provided a unique contrast between native Meknes families and those who have travelled there from the south.

## Jennie Demille (African Studies & School of Public and Environmental Affairs)



Demille with a Maasai mama at the home of a local elder in the southern Kajiado region.

This summer I returned to Kenya to conduct fieldwork for my thesis project which focuses on the social mobilization and political identity of Kenya's Maasai. Through in-depth interviews with activists and leaders of non-governmental organizations representing Maasai interests, my approach seeks to understand the cultural, economic and political factors that define the Maasai social movement in Kenya. By investigating the political claims and action repertoires of the Maasai, I hope to more fully explore the ways in which minority ethnic groups such as the Maasai seek to engage in multi-ethnic democracies. This summer was an interesting time to be in Kenya. The country is in the process of implementing wide-ranging constitutional reforms precipitated by the ethnically-motivated post-election violence of 2007. Kenya is also preparing for the next round of national elections, scheduled for March 2013. With such great change taking place in the country, fieldwork provided the opportunity to be witness to, and at times participate in, a vibrant dialogue within the Maasai community on the issues of ethnicity, politics and the changing democracy in Kenya.

## Carinna Friesen (Ethnomusicology)

Thanks to IU's Pre-Dissertation Research Grant, I had the opportunity to spend 6 1/2 weeks in Burkina Faso this past summer. The goal was to help me prepare for my future dissertation research on music and religious change by exploring potential research sites, assessing research methods, developing contacts, gaining a broad overview of local practices, as well as determining and resolving important logistical issues.

I began in the capital city of Ouagadougou, but soon traveled to the city of Orodara in southwestern Burkian Faso. This became my base from which I made several trips out to the Dzùùn village of Samogohiri where I had lived for a year with a missionary family in 2000-2001. In both Orodara and Samogohiri I was able to conduct several interviews to gain a preliminary understanding of the local music culture and the history of Islam and Christianity in the village. Although my arrival during the rainy season meant that most members of the village were very busy planting and working in their fields, I was nonetheless able to interact with people during day-to-day activities and gain a sense of the context for their various activities. I attended a few weddings, along with church services and other musical events. It was very good to reconnect with people from the little Mennonite church in the village, and I am very grateful for their hospitality and willingness to help me make contacts and meet with musicians and elders during such a busy time of year. I am also grateful to the staff at the Orodara guest house who helped me practice my language skills, and the missionaries in Ouagadougou who offered valuable advice on living in the village and interacting within Dzùùn culture.



Friesen in Orodara.



Hantgan in Burkina Faso.

### Abbie Hantgan (Linguistics)

I returned to West Africa in June 2012 to join a dedicated group of field workers who are cooperating on the Dogon and Banguime Linguistics project (<http://dogonlanguages.org/>) in order to piece together the intricate puzzle of the 20 languages and 60-plus dialects spoken in the Dogon villages of Mali. The current phase of this project is funded by a National Science Foundation grant. My component of the project is a continuation of my 2010-11 dissertation research on the language isolate Bangime and new research on the Dogon languages Ibi-so (dialect of Toro-so) and Kindige (Bondu-so).

Given the precarious political situation in Mali following the March 2012 military coup, the research team has relocated from Douentza and Sevare (Mopti region) to Bobo Dioulasso, Burkina Faso. Dogon and Bangime language consultants make the long journey from their homes to work with us. The importance of preserving endangered languages has heightened significantly in light of the complex situation in Mali. The speakers of the languages with whom I work are more enthusiastic than ever to do what it takes to ensure that their culture, customs, and heritage are preserved through the documentation of their languages.

### Elizabeth (“Libby”) Pfeiffer (Anthropology)

With the support of a Pre-Doctoral Training Award in Clinical and Translational Research (A Shekar, PI) and a Kinsey Institute Student Research Grant, I spent much of the 2011-2012 academic year conducting dissertation research in Burnt Forest, a small urban center located along a major highway in the Rift Valley Province of Kenya. My work explored the moral issues and ethical contradictions surrounding HIV/AIDS (the disease and the responses to it) in a rapidly changing society. Specifically, I used ethnographic methods to interrogate how AIDS-related stigma and discrimination affect biomedical health care utilization, health outcomes, and gender, as well as marital and sexual relations, within the larger social, economic, and political contexts of this community.



Pfeiffer conducting a semi-structured interview

While my funding required me to come back to the USA in May to attend and present my project at a national conference in Rochester, Minnesota, I returned to Kenya for two additional months of research during summer 2012. I found my work to be challenging, yet extremely rewarding. I was fortunate to work under the tutelage of many kind and generous individuals who taught me about living in their community. I am grateful to them for welcoming me into their lives and homes, helping me raise my two children, and teaching me to balance my roles of ethnographer and mother while abroad.

**Jonathan Adam Clemons (African Studies & Library Science)**

As the West African Research Center (WARC) Library intern for the summer of 2012, I worked and learned at WARC Library in Dakar, Senegal. I was tasked with improving access to resources and space issues in the library while also helping out with the day to day work that goes on in all libraries. My daily routine at WARC Library involved shelf-reading (library jargon for making sure books are in correct call-number order), checking in, renewing, and returning books for students and researchers, cataloging, as well as general reference work. I also learned a great deal about how to manage a library with a limited budget and modest resources.

While the daily tasks I performed are unquestionably crucial to the continued vitality of the library, I feel that my most important contribution to WARC Library was the implementation of a new cataloging system powered by libraryworld.com, which, once fully implemented, will dramatically improve access to resources in the library. For example, this software will allow the library to obtain circulation statistics, patron counts, and monthly reports just to name a few of the near-infinite array of other statistical possibilities. Additionally, researchers will have access to the catalog wherever the internet is available. Finally, the software is fully compatible with barcode and barcode reader technology which can be used for checking out books and automatically linking them with students' accounts. The libraryworld.com cataloging system is a major improvement on the library's current system.



Clemons at WARC in Dakar.

**Kirk Harris (Political Science)**

I was one of four U.S.-based graduate students who had the opportunity to participate in the fifth American Political Science Association Africa Workshop, which took place this year in Gaborone, Botswana, from July 14-27. The workshop – organized around the theme “Local Communities and the State in Africa” – brought together twenty-two scholars from African universities and research institutes in fourteen different countries to share research ideas, improve manuscripts in progress, and sharpen their understanding of a variety of theoretical issues associated with studying state-society relations at the sub-national level in Africa. The workshop was led by a team of five scholars, three from southern Africa and two from the United States; one of the latter was IU Associate Professor of Political Science Lauren MacLean). It was an invaluable opportunity to get feedback on my research and learn from scholars whose research is relevant to my work. Moreover, the two week workshop allowed me to build relationships with scholars with whom I hope to keep in touch throughout my career.

<b>Foreign Language &amp; Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship Recipients</b>	
<b><u>Academic Year 2011– 2012</u></b>	<b><u>Summer 2012</u></b>
Meg Arenberg (Comparative Literature), Arabic II	Candice Grant (Education), Wolof IV
Lewis Bradford (Anthropology), Arabic IV	Kirk Harris (Political Science), Swahili III
Jonathan Clemons (Library & Information Science / African Studies), Swahili II	Samantha Merritt (Informatics), Swahili I
Jennie Demille (Public & Environmental Affairs / African Studies), Swahili III	Elizabeth Pollard (Public & Environmental Affairs / African Studies), Wolof IV
Kristopher Ebarb (Linguistics), Swahili III	Nichole Richards (Education), Akan/Twi II
Candice Grant (Education), Wolof III	Brittany Sheldon (Art History), Gurene I
Kirk Harris (Political Science), Swahili II	
Steffan Horowitz (African Studies), Zulu II	
Elizabeth Pollard (Public & Environmental Affairs / African Studies), Wolof III	
Justin Wild (Public & Environmental Affairs / African Studies), Swahili V	

## Faculty Notes

**Akin Adesokan** (Comparative Literature) published the essays “New African Writing and the Question of Audience” in *Research in African Literatures* 43(2) and “Nollywood and the Idea of Nigerian Cinema” in *Journal of African Cinemas* 4(1). He participated in a roundtable discussion during a conference on “Wole Soyinka and the Politics of Nobel Prize” at UNISA in South Africa and was a panelist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s symposium on “Modernity, Culture, and the State in Africa.” He also presented “How Nigerian Films Imagine the World” at the Society for Cinema and Media Studies in Boston and “Framing Biopolitics: Jo Ramaka’s Cinema of Power” at the University of California-Los Angeles.

**David Adu-Amankwah** (African Studies) received a Center for Business Education and Research conference grant to attend the 2012 CIBER Business Language Conference in Chapel Hill, NC. In addition, he planned and moderated a panel entitled “Voices of Our Leaders: A Conversation with Pioneers in the Field” at the African Language Teachers Association conference at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He continues to serve as editor of the *Journal of the African Language Teachers Association*.

**A.B. Assensoh** (Emeritus, African American and African Diaspora Studies) presented a paper on comparative slavery at the Association of Third World Studies conference in Brazil.

**Jennifer Brass** (School of Public and Environmental Affairs) received the African Politics Conference Group’s inaugural Lynne Rienner Award for Best Dissertation in African Politics. She also was awarded a research grant from Mitsui Environmental Fund and a Sustainability Research Development Grant from the IU Office of Sustainability. Dr. Brass published “Blurring

Boundaries: The Integration of NGOs into the Governance of Kenya” in *Governance* 25(2) and “Why do NGOs Go Where They Go? Evidence from Kenya” in *World Development* 40(2).

**Beth Buggenhagen** (Anthropology) conducted preliminary fieldwork with artists working in the medium of photography and commercial photographers taking family pictures, creating photo collages, and making photo albums in Dakar. In addition to her book, *Muslim Families in Global Senegal* (IU Press), she published “Fashioning Piety: Dress, Money, and Faith Among Senegalese Muslims in Post 9/11 New York City,” in *City and Society* 24(1), and “Are Births Just ‘Women’s Business?’ Gift Exchange, Value, and Global Volatility in Muslim Senegal” in *American Ethnologist* 38 (4). She also was awarded a three year faculty curatorship at the Mathers Museum of World Cultures to continue her work on Senegalese photography.

**Gracia Clark** (Anthropology) participated in a meeting on food security and violent conflict, organized by the Conflict Prevention and Peace Forum of the Social Science Research Council in October 2011; a symposium on “Cooking, Cuisine and Class in the Anthropology of Food Today,” convened by the SOAS Food Studies Centre / Department of Anthropology at the University of London in March 2012; and a workshop on “Gendered Transformations of Work” at the University of Bergen, Norway, held in April 2012.

**Stuart Davis** (Linguistics) presented papers with PhD student Abbie Hantgan on vowel harmony in the Dogon language Bondu, spoken in Mali, at the Linguistics Society of America meeting in Portland, Oregon; the Annual Conference on African Linguistics in New Orleans; and at the Manchester, UK, Phonology meeting. He also presented “On the LI Development of Final Consonant Clusters in Cairene Arabic” with Marwa Ragheb at the 26<sup>th</sup> Arabic Linguistics Symposium in New York.

**Betty Dlamini** (African Studies) presented papers at the University of Central Florida, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and the University of British Columbia. She also published the text book *Our Song, Our Dance, Our Drama, Our Development*; eight entries in the *Dictionary of African Bibliography*; and three short stories in a MacMillan SiSwati reader.

**Hasan El-Shamy** (Folklore and Ethnomusicology) lectured on “The Concept of ‘Martyrdom’ and the Present Revolutionary Crisis in Egypt” during the June 2012 IU Mini-University. He presented “*Cultural Responses to the Qur’an: A Symposium*” in association with the Qur’an Group of the American Academy of Religion, AAR Annual Meeting, San Francisco, November 2011; and “Typology and the Sacred Quranic and Quasi Quranic Narrative in Islamic Literature” at the invitation of The Institute of Ismaili Studies in London. A Chinese translation of Dr. El-Shamy’s essay “Behaviorism and the Text” (1976) was published in *Forum of National Folk Culture*, (Shanghai) Vol. 4 (2012), pp. 151-166. He has three articles in press: “Zwillinge/Twins,” *Enzyklopaedie des Maerchens* (2012); “Folklore,” *Encyclopedia of Islam* 3 (third edition); and “The Worldview and Structure of Sentiments in Hamzah Muhammad Boqari’s *Saqifat as-Safā* (Tr. As: *The Sheltered Quarter: A Tale of a Boyhood in Mecca*). With an index of contents classification by motif” *Majallat al-khitāb al-thaqāfi* (*Journal of Cultural Discourse*), King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

**Marion Frank-Wilson** (Wells Library) traveled to South Africa in June 2012 to attend the Cape Town Book Fair, a premier venue for African authors, literary agents and publishers. She also visited with book vendors located in Cape Town.

**Michael Gasser** (Informatics and Computing) taught a two-week intensive course on machine translation to

## Faculty Notes (continued)

students in the Language Technology PhD program at Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia.

**Eileen Julien** (Comparative Literature) was an invited speaker on a plenary roundtable entitled "Africa in the Aftermath of the Arab Spring" at the 2012 American Comparative Literature Association meeting, held at Brown University. She also participated in a Festschrift and celebration honoring Professor Flora Veit-Wild at her retirement from Humboldt University in Berlin, Germany. Her "Talking about Art in Dakar," an interview of Senegalese visual artists Kalidou Sy, Viye Diba, and Serigne Mbaye Camara appeared in the Festschrift.

**Lauren MacLean** (Political Science) taught "Field Research Methods" at the Institute of Qualitative and Multi Method Research at Syracuse University in June 2012. From July 15-27, she co-directed the 2012 APSA Africa Workshop "Local Communities and the State in Africa" at the University of Botswana in Gaborone. Funded by the Mellon Foundation and facilitated by the American Political Science Association, the workshop brought together 22 Africa-based scholars from 14 countries and 4 US-based scholars. Her article "Power for Development: A Review of Distributed Generation Projects in the Developing World," co-authored with Jennifer Brass and Sanya Carley is forthcoming in the *Annual Review of Environment and Resources*.

**Alex Lichtenstein** (History) was awarded a New Frontiers grant to prepare an exhibit of Margaret Bourke-White's photographs of South Africa for the Mather Museum of World Cultures. In June, he presented a paper on South African labor law at a conference celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the Center for African Studies at the University of Edinburgh.

**Michael Martin** (Communication and Culture) presented papers at UCLA and at the University of Ottawa and was a respondent at the Chicago Film Seminar. In addition, he conducted interviews with five filmmakers. He was named editor of the new IU Press book series *Studies of the Cinemas in the Black Diaspora*, and his documentary film *In the Absence of Peace* was accepted for distribution by Third World Newsreel.

**Marissa Moorman** (History) traveled to Luanda, Angola, with the support of a New Frontiers travel grant. She gave the keynote address: "Filho alheio?": Notes for thinking kuduro in space and time," at the Kuduro International Conference, May 23-26, 2012, and conducted five weeks of research. Following her stay in Luanda, she spent two weeks in South Africa to participate in the Annual Winter School at the University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, where she presented "On Intonation" as part of this year's project on *Social Acts and the Subject of the Humanities*. In August 2012, she went to New York City to record a program for Afro-Pop Worldwide's *Hip Deep* four-program series on music in Angola. Dr. Moorman is the "guide" for one program and participates in two others.

**Michelle Moyd** (History) published "Making the Household, Making the State: Colonial Military Communities and Labor in German East Africa" in *International Labor and Working Class History* 80 (Fall 2011). She received a research leave supplement from the IU Office of the Vice-Provost for Research to support her residential fellowship at the International Research Center, "Work and Human Life-Cycle in Global History" at Humboldt University in Berlin, Germany, for the 2012-2013 academic year.

**Luciana Namorato** (Spanish and Portuguese) published *Dialogos borgianos: Intertextualidade e imaginario nacional na obra de Jorge Luis Borges e de Antonio Fernando Borges* (7 Letras) and co-edited

a volume of essays (with Cesar Ferreira) entitled *La palabra segun Clarice Lispector: Aproximaciones criticas* (Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marco).

**Samuel Obeng** (Linguistics & African Studies) published *Selected Topics in Intercultural Communication* (New York: Nova Science, 2012) and "Footprints of My Teachers: A Phenomenological Account of my Experiences with Peace Corps Volunteers in Africa (Ghana) from 1971 to 1976." *War and Peace Journal* (2012). He also presented "'Libya is at a crossroads. If we do not agree today on reforms, we will not be mourning 84 people, but thousands of deaths and rivers of blood will run through Libya.'" Exaggeration and Metaphor in the 2011 Libyan War" and "Compliments in Akan (Ghanaian) Jurisprudence" at the 24th Annual Ethnographic & Qualitative Research Conference June 1-2, 2012. He offered a keynote address titled "Casting the Net Wide: The Role of the Visionary Africanist Pedagogue in Contemporary Africa" at the *Network Africa Conference*, Indianapolis, September 2011.

**Alwiya Omar** (African Studies) presented papers titled "Collaborative Storytelling Using WIKI" at the November 2011 ACTFL conference in Denver, CO; and "Teaching of Foreign Languages and E-Portfolio Assessment – Keeping Track of Learner Performance" at the April 2012 ALTA/NCOLCTL conference in Madison, WI. She started a two-year term as president of NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages) in April 2012. Dr. Omar also participated in a meeting of Kiswahili scholars, held at the State University of Zanzibar in March 2012, to plan for a new graduate program in Kiswahili Linguistics and Literature. She directed the STARTALK Kiswahili program for Bloomington high school students; was a lead instructor at the NCOLCTL STARTALK Kiswahili program in Madison, WI; and a team leader and site visitor for the University of Maryland STARTALK Central - all in summer 2012. She also visited the

STARTALK programs at Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, and at Hamilton College in Clinton, NY.

**Daniel Reed** (Folklore and Ethnomusicology) received a Collaborative Research and Creative Agency grant from the IU Office of the Vice President for Research for his project "Dancing (Together) Around Discourses: Providing Online Access to Annotated Multimedia Materials on Ivorian Immigrant Performance."

**Beth Samuelson** (Education) co-authored "Students Writing Across Cultures: Teaching Awareness of Audience in a Co-Curricular Service Learning Project" in *Working Papers in Literacy, Culture, and Language Education (1)* with J. Kigamwa.

## Alumni Notes

**Heather Maxwell** (Ph.D. Ethnomusicology, 2002) is now the host/producer of *Music Time in Africa* and Director of African Music for the English to Africa Service of the Voice of America.

**Tristan Purvis** (Ph.D. Linguistics, 2008) has accepted a new position at the American University of Nigeria in Yola, Nigeria. He can be reached at [tristan.purvis@aun.edu.ng](mailto:tristan.purvis@aun.edu.ng).

## Student Notes

**Casey Bushman** (African Studies) completed his master's degree with a thesis titled "Elusive Urbanity: Shopping for Global Aspiration, Personal Liberation, and Public Space in Soweto."

**Paul Davis** (Art History) completed his PhD with a dissertation on "The Social History of Painting in Bamako, Mali, 1930s-1980s." He was awarded an Andrew W. Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellowship and is currently serving as a re-

search associate at the University of Witwatersrand's Centre for the Creative Arts of Africa in Johannesburg, South Africa.

**Kristopher Ebarb** (Linguistics) was awarded a Fulbright US Student Grant and a National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant to carry out research on several Luyia languages in Kenya during the 2012-2013 academic year.

**Carinna Friesen** (Folklore and Ethnomusicology) received a Pre-Dissertation Travel Grant to conduct exploratory research in Burkina Faso in summer 2012. She published "Processes of Contextualization: Mennonite Music in Burkina Faso" in *Sound in the Lands: Mennonite Music Across Borders* edited by Mauren Epp, Carol Ann Weaver, Doreen Klassen, and Anna Janecek (Pandora Press).

**Abbie Hantgan** (Linguistics) presented papers on the abstract nature of the Bondu vowel system, co-authored with Professor Stuart Davis, at the following conferences: Mid-Continental Phonetics and Phonology Conference, Urbana-Champaign, IL (October 2011); Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Portland, OR (January 2012); Conference on African Linguistics, New Orleans, LA (March 2012).

**Baqie Muhammad** (Art History) received the 2011-2012 Fadel Educational Foundation Fellowship and the 2012 Friends of Art Pogram Harrison Memorial Award for History of Art. She also contributed entries on five prominent Sudanese figures for *The Dictionary of African Biography* edited by Emmanuel K. Akyeampong and Henry Louis Gates, Jr. (Oxford).

**Elizabeth Pfeiffer** (Anthropology) was nominated to PhD candidacy in September 2011 and subsequently left for Kenya to conduct dissertation research with the support of a 2011-2012 Pre-Doctoral Training Award in Translational Research from the Indiana Clinical

and Translational Sciences Institute at the IU School of Medicine and a 2011-2012 Student Research Grant from the Kinsey Institute for Sex, Gender, and Reproduction. She presented "Understanding the Social and Structural Processes of AIDS-related Stigma and Discrimination in Western Kenya" at the National Clinical and Translational Sciences Predoctoral Programs meeting in Rochester, Minnesota, in May 2012. Ms. Pfeiffer was awarded an Indiana University College of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Year Fellowship for the 2012-2013 academic year.

**Nichole Richards** (Education) received a Robert F. Arnove Travel Fund Award from the Educational Leadership and Policy Studies department of the IU School of Education to support her summer travel to Ghana.

**Angela Scharfenberger** (Folklore and Ethnomusicology) authored "Young and Wise in Accra, Ghana: A Musical Response to AIDS" in *The Culture of AIDS in Africa: Hope and Healing through Music and the Arts* edited by Gregory Barz and Judah Cohen (Oxford), and "West African Women in Music: An Analysis of Scholarship" in *African Music Journal* 9(1). She also received a grant from Belarmine University to develop a three-week summer undergraduate course in Ghana.

**Brittany Sheldon** (Art History) was awarded a West African Research Association Pre-Doctoral Fellowship to conduct pre-dissertation research in northern Ghana during the 2012-13 academic year.

**Justin Wild** (African Studies & School of Public and Environmental Affairs) completed his master's degree with a thesis titled "Daring to Dare: An Exploratory Study of Indigenous Knowledge and Context Specific Instruction in Learning and Teaching in Tanzania." He is remaining in Bloomington to pursue a PhD in the School of Education.

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