



## The African Studies Association of Australasia and the Pacific

Habari kwa ufupi - AFSAAP newsletter

**No. 48**  
**April 2014**

To contribute to the  
newsletter, please  
contact  
newsletter@afsaap.org.au

### **2014 Conference Website Up and Running**

AFSAAP is pleased to announce that the [website for the 2014 Conference in Dunedin](#), New Zealand – “Africa: Diversity and Development” – is now operational. Attendees are required to register and pay for attendance.



The conference seeks to explore the richness of the continent and its diversity in a wide range of social, economic and cultural dimensions, while simultaneously discussing development options, challenges and experiences.

Speakers should submit 300 word abstracts to [2014conference@afsaap.org.au](mailto:2014conference@afsaap.org.au) by 30 June 2014.

The AFSAAP conference immediately precedes the [Dev-Net Conference](#) (the conference of the Aotearoa New Zealand International Development Studies Network), which will be held at the same venue from 27-29 November 2014. AFSAAP conference participants are welcome to also join the Dev-Net conference at a discounted rate.

Registration fees include all conference materials and light snacks/lunch during the day. An AFSAAP Conference Dinner will be organized and this will cost extra – details TBA.

	Waged/Employed	Student/retired/non-waged
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Full Conference – 2 days	AUD \$250	AUD \$175
1 day attendance	AUD \$160	AUD \$110
Conference Dinner	AUD \$50	AUD \$50

## New ARAS Edition Out Soon

ARAS Vol 35 June 2014 will be posted out to all AFSAAP members in the first week of June. Electronic versions will be accessible then too. You will all be emailed the passwords for 2014 at the time of publication.

In the next issue the following articles will be published:

Christina Kenny, "Cultural Practice as Resistance in the British Colony of Kenya"

Deborah Mayersen, "'Once Upon a Time there was a Wonderful Country': Representations of History in Rwanda"

Jack Corbett, "But We Can't Make Them Drink: Understanding Community Ownership in the Namwera and Chiponde Afforestation Project"

Lynda Lawson "I have to be my own mother and father': the African Student Experience at University, a Case Study Using Narrative Analysis"

Ryan O'Byrne "Narratives of Return Among Refugee-Background South Sudanese in New Zealand"

## Update Your Profile on [afsaap.org.au](http://afsaap.org.au)

A reminder that all current AFSAAP members are able to provide a personal profile for the members section of [www.afsaap.org.au](http://www.afsaap.org.au). The profile is used by various members of the public (particularly the media) to locate African experts, and includes institutional affiliation, links to personal homepages, countries of specialisation and a paragraph summarising academic interests in African studies.

Members who have not yet done so should contact AFSAAP web editor Sam Wilkins at [samdouglaswilkins@gmail.com](mailto:samdouglaswilkins@gmail.com).

## AFSAAP Members at Conferences Abroad

Ms Sue Dobson, AFSAAP member from the University of South Africa, will be representing AFSAAP at the forthcoming [Russian Academy of Sciences, 13th International Conference of Africanists, in Moscow](#), Russia, May 27-30, 2014.

Sue will be presenting her doctoral research on post-conflict constitution building in Rwanda. Sue is being supported by AFSAAP's funds to attend this conference through this initiative established in 2014 by the AFSAAP executive "to establish contact with African universities and scholars, other overseas scholars and African Studies associations, and to promote interchanges with them."

if you are interested in these small grants please contact the AFSAAP executive.

## New ASA Blog

The [US-based African Studies Association \(ASA\)](#) is delighted to announce that its new blog page has now launched. The blog is another way for members and non-members to access the association's extensive network and to connect with one another, while sharing your passion for the study of Africa.

The ASA also invites unsolicited submissions from currently registered members of the ASA, and submitted articles will be accepted on a rolling basis, around the following general thematic areas:

- Current issues in African studies and research
- Women, gender and research on Africa
- Graduate students and the study of Africa
- Notable publications in African studies

For detailed instructions on how to submit a blog article, go to: [ASA Blog Submission Guidelines](#).

## Call for Papers: Asian Studies in Africa: the Challenges and Prospects of a New Axis of Intellectual Interaction

Dates: 15 - 17 January 2015, Deadline: 15 April 2014, Location: Accra, Ghana.

Organized by A-Asia in cooperation with the International Convention of Asian Scholars (ICAS), "Asian Studies in Africa" will be the first ever conference held in Africa to bring together a multidisciplinary ensemble of scholars and institutions from the continent and the rest of the world with a shared focus on Asia and Asia-Africa intellectual interactions.

The conference, through panels and roundtables, will seek to assess the prospects for Asian Studies in Africa in a global context by addressing a number of theoretical and empirical questions that such an enterprise will raise: How should Asian studies be framed in Africa? Is Asian studies relevant for Africa? What is the current state of capacity (institutional, intellectual, personnel, and so on) for Asian studies in Africa and can this be improved and how? How does (and must it?) Asian studies dovetail into the broader field of 'Area studies', as it has been developed mainly in Western institutions? Are new narratives required for understanding the very visible contemporary presence of Asia in Africa and Africa in Asia? What is the current state of research on Africa-Asia (transnational) linkages?

We invite proposals for panels, roundtables, papers and book presentations in the fields of Asian-African interactions studies. Proposals in English, French or Portuguese should be submitted online before 15 April 2014. All panel, roundtable, and paper proposals should clearly outline the methodological approach(es) taken and whether they contribute to the theoretical and/or empirical objectives of the conference (for guidelines see the submission form).

More details, including the conference's book prize and travel grants, can be found at the conference website: <http://www.africas.asia/>

## Call for Papers and Panels: ASMEA Seventh Annual Conference

The Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa (ASMEA) is currently seeking paper proposals and panel proposals for presentation at the [Seventh Annual ASMEA Conference](#) being held October 30 - November 1, 2014 in Washington, DC.

Call for Papers:

- Members from any discipline, tenured or untenured faculty, or those otherwise affiliated with a recognized research institution, may submit proposals to present at the Conference.
- Unique proposals from senior graduate students (ABD) also will be considered.
- Proposals on topics related to the Middle East and Africa should consist of a one-page outline, approximately 750 words, of new and unpublished research.
- A recent C.V. with all contact data must be included with name, e-mail, phone number, and affiliation.
- All submissions must be submitted through the online web form.
- Deadline is April 30, 2014.

Call for Panels:

- Please include a panel title; up to four presenters including their name, paper proposal, C.V./resume; a discussant; and a point of contact.
- Abstracts on topics related to the Middle East and Africa should consist of a one-page outline of new and unpublished research.
- All panel proposals must be submitted through the online web form.
- Deadline is April 30, 2014.

This year's conference titled, "Searching for Balance in the Middle East and Africa," will feature panel presentations and roundtable discussions on scholarly topics from Middle Eastern and African studies, and related disciplines; banquet luncheon and professional networking reception; film screenings; displays by publishers of the latest academic titles, and Keynote Address by Prof. Meir Litvak of Tel Aviv University on, "Rouhani's Iran: How Real is the Change?" For further information, visit [asmeascholars.org](http://asmeascholars.org) or email us at [info@asmeascholars.org](mailto:info@asmeascholars.org).

## UNHCR Mother's Day Lunch – 9 May

Book now for our special Mother's Day Lunch with host **Wendy Harmer**, one of Australia's best-known media personalities.

Join us as we celebrate the role of mothers and how together we can make a life-changing difference to refugee women.

Women and girls make up 80% of all refugees. They are particularly vulnerable to reproductive health problems, violence and limited access to education. Funds raised will go towards UNHCR's programs supporting refugee women and girls.

When: Friday 9 May 2014

Where: The Ivy Ballroom, The Ivy, 320-330 George Street, Sydney CBD

Time: 12:00pm - 2:30pm

Buy your tickets [here](#). Tickets are \$180 and includes a two-course lunch, complimentary drinks and a gift bag.