



The African Studies Association of Australasia and the Pacific

Habari kwa ufupi - AFSAAP newsletter

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

37th AFSAAP Conference Call for Papers – deadline extended July 14th

This year's conference is going to be in New Zealand, at the University of Otago. Prof. Tony Binns is convening the conference entitled – "Africa: Diversity and Development".

You can submit abstracts of 200-words to afsaap2014@afsaap.org.au.

All submissions will be peer reviewed. The conference papers will also be peer reviewed and published at www.afsaap.org.au, where you can also find more information on the call. We hope to see you all there, making connections across the Tasman.

Becoming an African Chief

Prof. Tony Binns gave a Public Lecture in Dunedin, based on his 40 years of work in Sierra Leone. The lecture was recorded as a podcast, and is available at [The University of Otago's catalogue of Humanities Lectures](#), or can be streamed directly [here](#).

Happy listening!

Third International Africa Australia Association Conference - 16 & 17 October 2014.

*Doing Business In Africa /
Opportunities in International Education and Training.*

The Africa Australia Association's two-day program will provide an intimate setting for high-level executives and key stakeholders to discuss opportunities and strategies for enhancing Africa-Australia relationships in education, training and related industries.

[View Conference Announcement](#)

Visit www.africalink.org.au for speakers and program updates.

Oiling the Urban Economy

AFSAAP member Dr. [Franklin Obeng-Odoom](#) has published his research in a book entitled *Oiling the Urban Economy: Land, Labour, Capital, and the State in Sekondi-Takoradi, Ghana*. Routledge, 2014.

This book presents a critical analysis of the 'resource curse' doctrine and a review of the international evidence on oil and urban development to examine the role of oil on property development and rights in West Africa's new oil metropolis - Sekondi-Takoradi, Ghana.

It seeks answers to the following questions: In what ways did the city come into existence? What changes to property rights are oil prospecting, explorations, and production introducing in the 21st century? How do the effects vary across different social classes and spectrums? To what extent are local and national institutions able to shape, restrain, and constrain trans-national oil-related accumulation and its effects on property in land, property in housing (residential, leisure, and commercial), and property in labour? How do these processes connect with the entire urban system in Ghana?

This book shows how institutions of varying degrees of power interact to govern land, housing, and labour in the city, and analyses how efficient, sustainable, and equitable the outcomes of these interactions are. It is a comprehensive account of the tensions and contradictions in the main sectors of the urban economy, society, and environment in the booming Oil City and will be of interest to urban economists, development economists, real estate economists, Africanists and urbanists.

AFSAAP has made links with the Centre For Africa Studies – University of the Free State

AFSAAP has been talking to Prof. Heidi Hudson from the Centre for Africa Studies at the University of the Free State, South Africa. She is the Editor of [the International Feminist Journal of Politics](#) and convenor the 4th Annual IJFP conference, to be held on June 18-19, 2015 at the University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia.

The conference will be centred on the theme 'The Difference that Gender Makes to International Peace and Security'. AFSAAP would encourage members with research interests in this area to check out their [call for papers](#).

AFSAAP Members publish you area of expertise on our website

The AFSAAP website invited ALL members to submit their areas of expertise and research to our [interactive members forum](#), which is designed to assist members with networking and knowledge building, and is used by other researchers, the media, and government departments to find the most appropriate expert. We even use it to find expert reviewers for the journal *Australasian Review of African Studies*. So, please email secretary@afsaap.org.au with your details.

From Russia with Love - Connections with African Studies Associations

Sue Dobson returned from a great few weeks in Russia. She made important connections while visiting the recent Russian Institute of African Studies Conference, and is confident we will see a few new faces at the next AFSAAP conference! It was a fascinating event, and her paper on post-genocide Rwanda was well-received.

Ms. Dobson met with Prof. Dimitri Bondarenko, the Vice-Director for Research Institute for African Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, to discuss at length, how to connect more with AFSAAP. She is currently completing her PhD at the University of South Australia, and was the recipient of AFSAAP's generous African Studies-related conference funding in order to attend this event. If you are interested in this funding scheme please contact the president@afsaap.org.au.

AFSAAP member Prof. Kuruvilla Matthews - has the Last Word on China in Africa!

In a recent issue of The China Daily, Kuruvilla Matthews - the renowned Indian academic, and professor of political science and international relations at Addis Ababa University - has a lot to say about China's engagement in Africa.

Read Kuruvilla's illuminating perspective [here](#).