



# The African Studies Association of Australasia and the Pacific

Habari kwa ufupi - AFSAAP  
Newsletter No. 84 - October 2017

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## AFSAAP Newsletter – October 2017

### AFSAAP 2017 CONFERENCE - POSTGRADUATE TRAVEL GRANT WINNERS

Congratulations to Aimé Saba and Marie Barrere-Collet for their success in winning the AFSAAP Travel grants of \$500 each to attend the 2017 Annual Conference.

Aimé Saba will be presenting 2 papers- “Necro-Politics in Francophone Africa and Attempts for Withdrawal from the ICC: The Case of Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo”; and “On understanding Dialogue and Negotiations between Externals and Locals: Cooperation and Resistance between local actors and the UN and other Donors in Burundi”.

Marie Barrere-Collet will present a paper on “Crime rates among ethnic minorities: an investigation on the effect of systemic and institutional racial bias on police crime records”.

### AFSAAP2017 - Not Too Late to Register

For the 40th AFSAAP Annual Conference – AFSAAP 2017. See the Program at [www.afsaap.org.au](http://www.afsaap.org.au) and REGISTER TODAY.

### Don't Forget BACK-TO-BACK WITH AFSAAP

#### Palestine and the West: History Contemporary Realities and Challenges Ahead

Coming to Adelaide for the Annual AFSAAP Conference? You may like to stay on for the weekend and attend this symposium, at Adelaide University –Starts Nov 24 – See <http://www.afopa.com.au/2017-palestine-symposium>

### The Francophone Africans: A Last Frontier for Australia

A presentation by Mr William Fisher: Special Envoy of the Australian Government for the Francophone States of Africa and La Francophonie

Tuesday 17 October, 6:00pm- AIIA Conference Centre- Stephen House, 32 Thesiger Court, Deakin ACT.- While Africa in general, and the French-speaking part of it in particular, may seem of distant interest to Australian preoccupations, there is an increasing number of issues where Australia will find it needs constructive



partners in this region. The 24 Francophones constitute about half of the African bloc, and thus are an essential group in any contested UN vote, where they can act quite efficiently as a bloc. Each country is quite different, and state governance issues are often complicated. Terrorist threats can dominate in several, particularly the Sahel countries, while much of central and equatorial Africa suffers from years of often violent political instability and poor development outcomes. The Indian Ocean states, while not immune from political troubles of their own in the past, are generally now doing rather well. Australia has no assets in the region, and no resident Embassies other than, from just this month, Morocco.

This is an AIIA ACT Branch event.

Registration is encouraged through the following link: <https://aiiaact.tidyhq.com/public/schedule/events/15926-the-francophone-africans-a-last-frontier-for-australia>

Registration is also available at the door.

### **Special Issue on Conflicts and Peace Making in Africa**

AFSAAP Member Muhammad Dan Suleiman (University of Western Australia, Perth) and colleague Africanist scholars have recently guest edited a special issue of *Peace Review: A Journal of Social Justice* published by the University of San Francisco under the theme “‘New’ Conflicts and Africa’s Emerging Economy of Difference’ – please click here to read it <http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/cper20/29/3>. The special issue contains essays that cover important topics in peace and security in Africa, and which cut across many countries and regions in the continent. You can have full access to the essays through your institutional library affiliations or by contacting the featured authors for full text links. Authors’ emails are found at the end of each essay.

### **New Journal from Africa**

Cameroon Journal of Studies in the Commonwealth see <http://camerooncommonwealthjournal.com/pages/about/index.php>

### **2nd NOTICE OF AFSAAP AGM**

To be held Friday November 24th Monarto Zoo, South Australia 3.15pm-4.15pm. (Buses will transport participants to and from the venue as part of the AFSAAP2017 Annual Conference – (Note- a fee will apply to cover bus fares, Zoo entrance and catering, unless you are already paying the conference participation fee, which includes all of that and more). Please contact [president@afsaap.org.au](mailto:president@afsaap.org.au) if you require further information).

### **Final Expression of Interest – AFSAAP Office Bearers for 2018**

As normal, all office bearing positions will be declared open at the AGM at the forthcoming conference, and all AFSAAP members are invited to nominate for one of the positions: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Postgraduate Representative, ARAS Journal Editor. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else, please send a short description of why you believe you would be suited to the position, and



what you can bring to AFSAAP to [secretary@afsaap.org.au](mailto:secretary@afsaap.org.au) by 1 October 2017. These will be disseminated in advance of the AGM. Please note that if you would like to nominate another person, you must get their written approval. Please also contact the [president@afsaap.org.au](mailto:president@afsaap.org.au) if you would like to discuss any of the office bearer roles and duties in more detail.

### **Final Expression of Interest – ARAS Editor and Co-Editors**

Nominations are sought for the position(s) of Editor and Co-editor for the Australasian Review of African Studies (ARAS), the official journal of the African Studies Association of Australasia and the Pacific (AFSAAP). Applications will be considered by the AFSAAP Executive and current ARAS Editors. Deadline for submissions is October 1st 2017. Email to [president@afsaap.org.au](mailto:president@afsaap.org.au)

### **Forthcoming African Studies Conferences**

- African Studies Association of Africa – Addis Ababa, October 18-21, 2017 <http://www.as-aa.org/>
- Institute for African Studies – Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow October 17-20, 2017 <http://www.inafran.ru/en/node/487>
- African Studies Association (USA) – November 16-18 2017 – <http://africanstudiesassociation.org/>
- African Studies Association of Australasia and the Pacific – 23-24 November 2017 – (venues – University of South Australia and Monarto Zoo – The Serengeti in Oz!). <http://afsaap.org.au/conference/afsaap-2017/>
- African Studies Association – (UK) September 11-13 2018 <http://www.asauk.net/category/conferences/>

### **AFSAAP Members Expertise**

AFSAAP Members are reminded to update their fields of expertise and let us know so we can promote your research through our networks, and also put you in touch with relevant researchers and media looking for various experts. Please submit your short biographies and list at least one African state or region that you are researching on, or African issue, such as African-Diaspora. See the link in the title above. Email to [secretary@afsaap.org.au](mailto:secretary@afsaap.org.au)

### **THIRD WORLD QUARTERLEY – Disgraceful!**

The International Editorial Board of the Third World Quarterly has resigned over the disgraceful debacle of the publication of controversial and peer rejected 'Viewpoint essay' by Bruce Gilley entitled "The case for colonialism." This essay apparently did not meet any of the required academic standards, was making outrageous claims, yet was still published in Third World Quarterly, but without any consultation with the Editorial Board, and with no respect to the 3 peer reviewers that rejected it.

See the petition signed by over 4500 academics of integrity here [https://www.change.org/p/editors-of-the-third-world-quarterly-retract-the-case-for-colonialism?recruiter=409526319&utm\\_source=share\\_petition&utm\\_medium=twitter&utm\\_campaign=share\\_petition](https://www.change.org/p/editors-of-the-third-world-quarterly-retract-the-case-for-colonialism?recruiter=409526319&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=twitter&utm_campaign=share_petition)

In order to NOT raise the view or download metrics of the article or the journal, which will only increase its popularity, please read it for free here instead: <http://fooddeserts.org/images/paper0114.pdf>.



As noted by ARAS Editor Dr. Tanya Lyons in an email notification to all AFSAAP Members about this issue, she reminded us that as African Studies Scholars, and as subscribers to one of the few independent journals on African Studies (The Australasian Review of African Studies) we have a responsibility to uphold the intellectual rigour to ensure knowledge is shared, and research is used in a positive way. This recently published article in the TWQ, a so-called top ranked journal in development studies, just demonstrates how ridiculous the 'citation' pressures have become, and how they have obviously giving voice to outrageous and shameful opinions.

As the Editor of the Australasian Review of African Studies Dr. Lyons took this opportunity to remind you all to submit your articles to ARAS, as we are proud of our tradition of publishing properly peer reviewed articles that enables AFSAAP members to share your fabulous research and encourage scholars to strive for excellence. ARAS does this on a shoestring budget and has not needed to bend over backwards for corporate publishers, or the pressures to meet all of these ridiculous metrics as measured by other corporate companies, which are buoyed on by the university administrators and the over-zealous bean counters. We certainly do not approve of giving valuable publication space to such shameful views as the TWQ has done.