

# The African Studies Association of Australasia and the Pacific

Habari kwa ufupi - AFSAAP  
Newsletter No. 52 - September 2014

To contribute to the newsletter, please contact [newsletter@afsaap.org.au](mailto:newsletter@afsaap.org.au)



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## AFSAAP 2014 – Africa Diversity and Development Annual Conference Dunedin New Zealand

Remember to Register for the Conference – presenters must register before October 1st, all other participants must register prior to November 1st. See [www.afsaap.org.au](http://www.afsaap.org.au) for links to the Conference Website and payment and registration pages.

All queries – email [afsaap2014@afsaap.org.au](mailto:afsaap2014@afsaap.org.au)

## African Studies Reading Groups – Around Australia

Did you know AFSAAP will support you to set up an African Studies Reading Group? For the purchase of books and light refreshments to stimulate discussion. See <http://afsaap.org.au/resources/reading-group/> for further information. Reading group books currently available (in NSW, but arrangements can be made to send them to your group)- In My Fathers' House by Kwame Anthony Appiah; Africa Works: Disorder as Political Instrument by Patrick Chabal; Citizen and Subject by Mahmood Mamdani; Theory from the South by Jean Comaroff. Contact [president@afsaap.org.au](mailto:president@afsaap.org.au) for further information.

## Back issues of the journal Australasian Review of African Studies

Attention Long-Time members of AFSAAP- Back issues of the AFSAAP Newsletter needed  
Would any AFSAAP members happen to have a copy of the Volume 8 1986 AFSAAP Newsletters, and or any of the 1980s newsletters. If so please contact AFSAAP President at [president@afsaap.org.au](mailto:president@afsaap.org.au)  
Sam Wilkins has been busy updating the AFSAAP website and now has linked almost all of the back issues of the journal ARAS – and the previously named issues of the African Studies Review and Newsletter, and AFSAAP Newsletter.

We have a few issues and volumes missing from the 1980s so if anyone can assist with copies please contact us at [president@afsaap.org.au](mailto:president@afsaap.org.au)



### Expression of Interest – AFSAAP Office Bearers for 2015

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 and Postgraduate Representative. See Position descriptions are attached to this email. 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 17 October 2014. 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.

### Changes to AFSAAP constitution

The AFSAAP constitution can be found here: <http://afsaap.org.au/about/constitution/>. According to the constitution, any changes require 21 days written notice to the AFSAAP membership, and they must then be voted on at the AGM. If you would like to suggest any changes to the constitution, please email [secretary@afsaap.org.au](mailto:secretary@afsaap.org.au) by 30 October 2014 in order to allow time for dissemination of the suggestions.

### MONASH/AFSAAP Postgraduate Prize 2014 - \$3500

Monash University and AFSAAP are proud to sponsor the AFSAAP/Monash Postgraduate Prizes totalling \$3,500 which are awarded to the best postgraduate paper(s) delivered at the annual AFSAAP conference. See <http://afsaap.org.au/conference/postgraduate-prizes/> for further details

### MAKING LINKS with other African Studies Associations

#### University of the Free State – Centre for Africa Studies

AFSAAP has established formal links with the Centre for African Studies at the University of the Free State in South Africa. Their centre promotes the study of Africa and would be keen to exchange ideas and research with AFSAAP members. See <http://humanities.ufs.ac.za/content.aspx?id=248> and <http://humanities.ufs.ac.za/content.aspx?id=250> for details of their other networks and collaborations. AFSAAP members interested in travelling to South Africa should contact [president@afsaap.org.au](mailto:president@afsaap.org.au) to discuss this network and opportunities for collaboration with the UFS-CAS.

Furthermore, AFSAAP has a dedicated page with links to other African Studies Associations and Centres.

See <http://afsaap.org.au/resources/links/>

Observant AFSAAP members would have read about Sue Dobson's travels to Russia in May this year to attend the Institute for African Studies at the Russian Academy of Sciences – Conference – see <http://www.inafran.ru/en/>.

Here is a photo of her meeting up with another keen AFSAAP member. Prof Kay Matthews from the University of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.





## AFSAAP Travel Grants – to visit other African Studies Conferences

**EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST** are invited from AFSAAP members to apply for small travel grants to promote AFSAAP on a wider scale. We invite expressions of interest (EOI) for one Member to represent AFSAAP at an overseas conference, identified by the Member, which focuses on African studies. This EOI is in accordance with one of AFSAAP's mission statements,

to establish contact with African universities and scholars, other overseas scholars and African Studies associations, and to promote interchanges with them.

In your EOI, please clearly outline, in 500 words how you will 'deliver' on this mission statement. Specifically, please outline:

- Key details of the conference that you have identified, including a brief background of the hosting association or institution (i.e. academic merit, quality of proceedings etc.)
- How your visit will benefit AFSAAP
- What activities will you undertake to promote AFSAAP and encourage overseas scholars to consider participating in AFSAAP conferences

You will be expected to write a report on your visit for the Habari kwa ufupi newsletter, detailing the bullet points, above. AFSAAP will contribute up to \$1,000 in travel costs. The successful applicant will make their own travel arrangements and the applicant must provide invoices to the AFSAAP Treasurer. The AFSAAP Executive reserves the right not to award any funding in a calendar year, depending on the budget and quality of the applications.

Please Email all Expressions of Interest to [secretary@afsaap.org.au](mailto:secretary@afsaap.org.au)

## The AFSAAP Project 2014 – African Studies in Australia and New Zealand

AFSAAP Postgraduate representative Mr. Aime Saaba has been busy researching and compiling a list of African Studies topics and researchers in Australian and New Zealand Universities. he conducted an Audit of African Studies in Australia 2014 – A Snapshot of Courses and Topics available in Australian and New Zealand Universities, in addition to names of researchers working on issues related to Africa.

This research will be made available on the AFSAAP website – [www.afsaap.org.au](http://www.afsaap.org.au) under **RESOURCES** – AFSAAP Archives. Contact [president@afsaap.org.au](mailto:president@afsaap.org.au) for further details.

## African International students in Australia and their experiences

AFSAAP President Dr. Tanya Lyons will be speaking at the forthcoming Africa Australia Association Conference "Doing Business in Africa- Opportunities in International Education and Training" (For more information on the conference see <http://www.africalink.org.au/> )

Dr. Lyons has been invited to speak about "African International students in Australia and their experiences", given AFSAAP's role in supporting the Australia Awards students from Africa between 2010-2013. If you have any feedback about your experiences as an International Student in Australia from Africa, and in particular if you were in receipt of a Scholarship through the Australia Awards program, please contact [president@afsaap.org.au](mailto:president@afsaap.org.au) All feedback will be treated as confidential and no identifiers will be used when summarizing any feedback.



## **2014 DevNet Conference, Otago University, 27 – 29 November From Vulnerability to Resilience: Partnerships for Development**

### **Call for Papers - Now**

The 2014 DevNet conference provides a forum for discussion and reflection on pressing issues in an open and welcoming environment. A key feature of DevNet conferences is the mix of papers from academics, development practitioners and other stakeholders from all those sectors involved in development. The conference welcomes papers focused on all geographic regions.

The current era is marked by a range of inter-related vulnerabilities, encompassing issues around poverty, inequality, environmental degradation, disasters, climate change and food security. New and innovative approaches to mitigating these vulnerabilities seek to ensure greater resilience for communities and individuals in the Global South. At the same time, development assistance is currently at a crucial juncture, as focus shifts beyond the Millennium Development Goals towards a post 2015 agenda and new donors assume greater prominence. Taken together, these overlapping issues provide a variety of challenges and opportunities for the development community at large.

### **Call for Papers – see details here**

#### **Suggested Themes**

- Questioning current thinking about resilience and vulnerability
- Sustainability in the post 2015 development agenda
- Governance and participation
- Climate change and adaptation
- Natural resource management
- Partnerships for development
- Aid and the changing role of donors/Does aid increase resilience?
- Pro-poor tourism
- Land questions and food security
- Disaster and risk reduction
- Community and resistance

## **Raising money for books in the Old Fadama slum in Ghana**

### **A message from AFSAAP Member Lorraine Bowan**

Please forgive me just this once for bringing this book drive to your attention. I taught a human rights lesson in this “school” during my last trip to West Africa this year. It is a school without any books, paper, writing materials or anything else in the worst slum in Accra, Ghana. It has been described as the most toxic slum in the world as it is a dumping ground for computer waste, the components of which are burnt to salvage metals. 80,000 people live in this slum without any services and many of them are kids. You can see what it is like in this You Tube clip.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Map\\_8-7Vux4&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Map_8-7Vux4&feature=youtu.be)

It was horrific but the kids are great and they just want to learn to read. The human rights office I worked for has launched a book drive through crowd funding to raise money to buy some exercise



books, writing materials and textbooks for the school. A small amount like \$10 will help us reach our target of \$3,700. If you could forward this to anyone you think might be interested in donating I would be very grateful. Donating is quick and easy at the justgiving website:

<https://www.justgiving.com/whatdoesabookmeantoyou/>

(Submitted by AFSAAP member Lorraine Bowan)


## Register for the 37th AFSAAP Conference to be held in New Zealand in November

This year interest in the 37th AFSAAP conference to be held at the University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand in November 25-26th has been high.

Over 100 abstracts have been accepted under the theme of 'Africa: diversity and development'. So far we have received registrations of attendance from people from Australia, New Zealand and Africa, most of whom have paid. We urge any of you who plan to attend the conference to register, and then to pay the registration fees.

We especially urge those who have had their abstracts accepted to register online on our website.

<http://afsaap.org.au/conferences/conference-registration/> This will help us to firm up the program and book appropriate conference rooms. We encourage presenters to pay at the same time when you register, but no later than the end of October, so we can finalise the program. At the time of registration you can also indicate if you wish to join in the conference dinner.



Australasian South Africa Alliance (ASAA) in collaboration with Customs House invites you to the opening of

## MEMORIES OF THE STRUGGLE

Australians Against Apartheid

on Thursday 11 September 2014 at Customs House, 6pm


The Hon. Gareth Evans, Chancellor of the ANU will open the exhibition. *Memories of the Struggle* documents Australia's involvement in the anti-apartheid movement from 1960 to 1994 and celebrates 20 years of democracy in South Africa.

RSVP (essential)  
Thursday 4 September 2014  
by phone 02 9242 8593 or  
[customshouse@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au](mailto:customshouse@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au)

IMAGE Nelson Mandela at Sydney Opera House, 1990. Photo: Newspix

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## Memories of the Struggle: Australians Against Apartheid.

Australasian South Africa Alliance (ASAA) in collaboration with Customs House invites you to the opening of "Memories of the Struggle: Australians Against Apartheid" on Thursday 11 September 2014 at Customs House (SYDNEY) 6pm.

The Hon. Gareth Evans, Chancellor of the ANU will open the exhibition. *Memories of the Struggle* documents Australia's involvement in the anti-apartheid movement from 1960 to 1994 and celebrates 20 years of democracy in South Africa.

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### **Call for Papers - The Australasian Review of African Studies**

ARAS invites contributors to submit articles related to African Studies that will contribute to a better understanding of Africa in Australasia and the Pacific.

ARAS is published twice a year in June and December by The African Studies Association of Australasia and the Pacific. ARAS is a multi-disciplinary journal (ERA ID 18727) that seeks to provide critical, authoritative and accessible material on a range of African affairs that is interesting and readable to as broad an audience as possible, both academic and non-academic. All articles are double blind peer reviewed by two independent and qualified experts in their entirety prior to publication – see <http://afsaap.org.au/ARAS/about-submissions/> for details on submissions. ARAS is published as a hard copy journal which is posted out to current AFSAAP full-subscribers, and is available in electronic format to all AFSAAP subscribers and members from [www.afsaap.org.au/ARAS/](http://www.afsaap.org.au/ARAS/). Furthermore, all ARAS articles are now available electronically through Informit Databases, and they are indexed through ProQuest Sociological Abstracts and Worldwide Political Science Abstracts. The current and previous 2 years of back issues are available online to all AFSAAP members at [www.afsaap.org.au](http://www.afsaap.org.au). All back issues prior to this are accessible to all.

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All correspondence should be sent to: [editor@afsaap.org.au](mailto:editor@afsaap.org.au)